FOLLOW US:
thehindu.com
facebook.com/thehindu
twitter.com/the_hindu
instagram.com/the_hindu

THE HINDU

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2022

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
Vol. 53 • No. 182
16 pages • ₹6.00

PRINTED AT · CHENNAI · COIMBATORE · BENGALURU · HYDERABAD · MADURAI · NOIDA · VISAKHAPATNAM · THIRUVANANTHAPURAM · KOCHI · VIJAYAWADA · MANGALURU · TIRUCHIRAPALLI · KOLKATA · HUBBALLI · MOHALI · MALAPPURAM · MUMBAI · TIRUPATI · LUCKNOW · CUTTACK · PATNA

"God comes to the starving lot in the form of food."
- Mahatma Gandhi

KARNATAKA BECKONS

The Beacon of hope of People by and large

Sri Siddaramaiah

The Messiah of Mass

Date : 03-08-2022 | Venue : Shamanur Palace Ground, Davanagere

Whose novel and revolutionary initiatives were besides being fully successful in the state, they also inspired Govt. at the centre and many other states in the country to follow suite.

Annadata for the starving lot

'Bhageeratha' for the farmers

Voice of the marginalised

Hope for the weak

Guiding light for the students & youth

Champion of Social Justic

Shoulder for the old people

Torchbearer of Karnataka
Pride and Strength for the entire state.

Grand & Hearty welcome for

Amruth Mahotsava of Sri Siddarammaiah -
The harbinger of many model welfare schemes

Revolutionary and novel schemes

ANNA BHAGYA
Hunger Free Karnataka

KRISHI BHAGYA
Flourishing Farmers Community

ksheeradhaare
Encouragement for Dairy Farming

Ksheerabhagya
Nourishment for Children

indira

VIDYASIRI
Dream of Higher Education Fulfilled

Vasati Bhaya
Hut Free Karnataka

RURAL DRINKING WATER
Pure Drinking Water

Arogya Bhagya
Health for all, every where health

MATHRU POORNA
Help for Distressed

EQUITY IN DEVELOPMENT
- SCP / TSP Act.

Issue By : Siddaramaiah-75 Amruth Mahotsava Committee

FOLLOW US:
thehindu.com
facebook.com/thehindu
twitter.com/the_hindu
instagram.com/the_hindu

THE HINDU

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2022

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
Vol. 53 • No. 182
16 pages • ₹6.00

Monkeypox confirmed in UAE-returned youth who died in Thrissur
page 5

Mamata Cabinet gives approval for seven more districts in Bengal
page 8

First shipment of grains leaves Ukraine port since start of war
page 11

Achinta adds to India's gold tally at Birmingham
page 13

PRINTED AT · CHENNAI · COIMBATORE · BENGALURU · HYDERABAD · MADURAI · NOIDA · VISAKHAPATNAM · THIRUVANANTHAPURAM · KOCHI · VIJAYAWADA · MANGALURU · TIRUCHIRAPALLI · KOLKATA · HUBBALLI · MOHALI · MALAPPURAM · MUMBAI · TIRUPATI · LUCKNOW · CUTTACK · PATNA

NEARBY

Vehicle numbers up from 55.26L to over 1.04 crore

BENGALURU

In the last decade, the vehicle numbers have increased exponentially in the city and road infrastructure built has not been sufficient to accommodate the growing number. In 2012-13, the total number of vehicles registered was 55.26 lakh, and it has crossed over 1.04 crore now.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 2

Govt. issues guidelines on monkeypox

BENGALURU

The Health Department has issued guidelines to all the district administrations, including BBMP, to ramp up surveillance and enhance preparedness for monkeypox cases.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 3

'Begin work on developing Anjanadri'

KALABURAGI

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Monday not only sought to put an end to the confusion over authenticity of the "birthplace" of Lord Anjaneya, but also directed the authorities concerned to begin construction work within four months on developing Anjanadri, the "birthplace", as an international pilgrimage centre.

KARNATAKA ▸ PAGE 4

Sanjay Raut sent to ED custody for three days

MP calls his arrest a 'conspiracy to finish the Shiv Sena'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PUNE

A special court in Mumbai on Monday granted the Enforcement Directorate (ED) custody of Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut for three days in a case connected to the proposed redevelopment of the Patra *chawl* in Goregaon in the city.

The MP was arrested shortly after Sunday midnight following an hours-long search at his residence. He was produced before the special court under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act after a medical check-up at J.J. Hospital.

Before entering the courtroom, Mr. Raut told pressmen that his arrest was a "conspiracy to finish off the Shiv Sena". His lawyer Ashok Mundargi said the arrest was politically motivated.

The ED sought an eight-day custody of Mr. Raut, but the special court allowed only three days. The allegation is that the developers of the *chawl*, one of whom a close associate of the MP, fraudulently made ₹1,039.79 crore from the scheme. Mr. Raut benefited from it, the agency alleged.

The ED, represented by special public prosecutor Hiten Venegaonkar, argued in the court that Mr. Raut had been summoned four times, but he appeared just once before the agency, and he "tried to tamper with the evidence and key witnesses".

Tussle begins: Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut after being produced before a special PMLA court in Mumbai on Monday. •PTI

'Direct beneficiaries'

Mr. Venegaonkar told the court that Mr. Raut and his family were direct beneficiaries of the proceeds of the scam and that the investigation had revealed that ₹1.06 crore had been transferred to the account of Mr. Raut and his wife, Varsha Raut.

Speaking after the court's order, Mr. Raut's brother Sunil Raut said: "We have full faith in the judiciary. He [Sanjay Raut] will soon come out of all this... The ED had asked custody for eight days, but the court has only granted the agency three days. Sanjay Raut is being arrested only for daring to speak out against the BJP and loyally supporting [Sena chief] Uddhav Thackeray."

In a show of solidarity to his confidant, Mr. Thackeray visited Mr. Raut's residence and met his aged mother.

Later, speaking to pressmen, Mr. Thackeray termed Mr. Raut a "dyed-in-the-wool" Shiv Sainik who scrupulously adhered to the ideals of Sena founder Bal Thackeray.

"I am proud of Sanjay Raut. What crime has he committed? He is a journalist, a Shiv Sainik, is fearless and speaks his mind about what he disapproves," Mr. Thackeray said.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8

'GST levies won't burden the poor'

FM criticises Opposition, States for misrepresenting the GST Council's decisions

VIKAS DHOOT
NEW DELHI

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday asserted that the Goods and Services Tax (GST) levies on food items such as curd, lassi and wheat would not burden poor households, and took on States and the Opposition parties for seeking to suggest that the taxes were driven by the Narendra Modi administration when it was a decision taken by the GST Council with all States on board.

Replying to the debate on price rise in the Lok Sabha, Ms. Sitharaman remarked that members' discussion dwelled on the political angles of price rise rather than data-driven concerns so her response would also be slightly political.

On the defensive: Nirmala Sitharaman speaking in the Lok Sabha during the monsoon session on Monday. •PTI

Congress members walked out mid-way through her reply saying it had no solutions to offer, with MPs from the DMK following suit later while Ms. Sitharaman switched to Tamil to reply to the issues they had raised.

Stressing that the government had held inflation at 7% or lower despite multiple headwinds including the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ukraine-Russia conflict and supply chain disruptions that persist due to lockdowns in parts of China, the Minister said the government was working to reduce price rise further.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8
SUSPENSIONS REVOKED ▸ PAGE 9

Two suspects detained in Praveen murder case

They were working in a bakery in Bengaluru

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU/MANGALURU

The Sullia police probing the BJP Yuva Morcha office-bearer Praveen Nettaru's murder case have found a link to Bengaluru, and detained two suspects who were hiding in the city.

Based on the information provided by Mohd. Shafiq and Zakir of Bellare, who had been arrested earlier, a special police team tracked down the suspects who were working in a bakery in Bengaluru. The duo was whisked away to Sullia for further investigation.

The suspects from Sullia had escaped to Bengaluru soon after the murder and started working in a bakery belonging to an acquaintance, sources said. After getting information from Mohd. Shafiq and Zakir, the police shared the information with the Bengaluru police. The Bengaluru city police kept a watch on the suspects till the Sullia police reached the city and apprehended them, the sources said.

Meawhile, Dakshina Kannada Superintendent of Police Rishikesh Sonawane told *The Hindu* that the police were questioning three persons, who were suspected to be involved in the Praveen murder case.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 4

8 killed, 5 injured in hospital fire in M.P.

Two of the injured are in critical condition; short circuit may have caused blaze

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
JABALPUR

Eight persons, four of them patients, were charred to death and five injured in a major fire that broke out in a private hospital here on Monday afternoon, officials said.

Jabalpur Collector Ilayaraja T. said four patients, a caregiver and three staffers of the facility, housed in a four-storey building, died in the fire which has been put out.

Of the five injured, he said, two were admitted in critical condition to the ICU of the government medical college in Jabalpur.

He said evacuation of patients and other people from the 30-bed hospital was over and no one was trapped in the building. The Collector said there were 20 to 25 people in the hospital when the blaze started.

Search for safety: Rescue under way after a fire broke out at a hospital in Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh on Monday. •PTI

The fire erupted at the New Life Multi-speciality Hospital near Damoh Naka under the Gohalpur police station area of Jabalpur around 2.30 p.m., Superintendent of Police Siddharth Bahuguna said.

It appears an electrical short circuit caused the blaze, he said.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan expressed grief over the tragedy and announced a compensation of ₹5 lakh each to the family of the deceased and ₹50,000 per injured person.

"In this hour of grief, the bereaved family should not consider themselves alone, the entire Madhya Pradesh and I are with the family," the Chief Minister said in a tweet.

President Droupadi Murmu on Monday said she was deeply saddened to hear about the loss of lives and wished speedy recovery to the injured. "Deeply saddened to hear about the loss of lives due to fire in a hospital in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh. I express my condolences to the families of those who lost their lives and wish the injured a speedy recovery," she tweeted.

CET-2022 document verification postponed

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Amidst outrage and huge protests by repeaters of CET-2021 and their parents, the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has postponed the document verification of CET-2022 slated to begin on August 5. The KEA will announce the new date shortly.

The KEA had announced the CET-2022 results on July 30 and decided to conduct the document verification from August 5 in the online mode.

However, since Saturday, hundreds of repeater students and parents have been continuously protesting in front of the KEA and Higher Education Minister's residence, and have said they are planning to challenge the decision of the KEA to not consider their II PU marks in the CET ranking in the High Court.

The repeaters have announced their plan to begin an indefinite fast from August 4.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 2

Four SBI ATM kiosks looted in Bengaluru

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

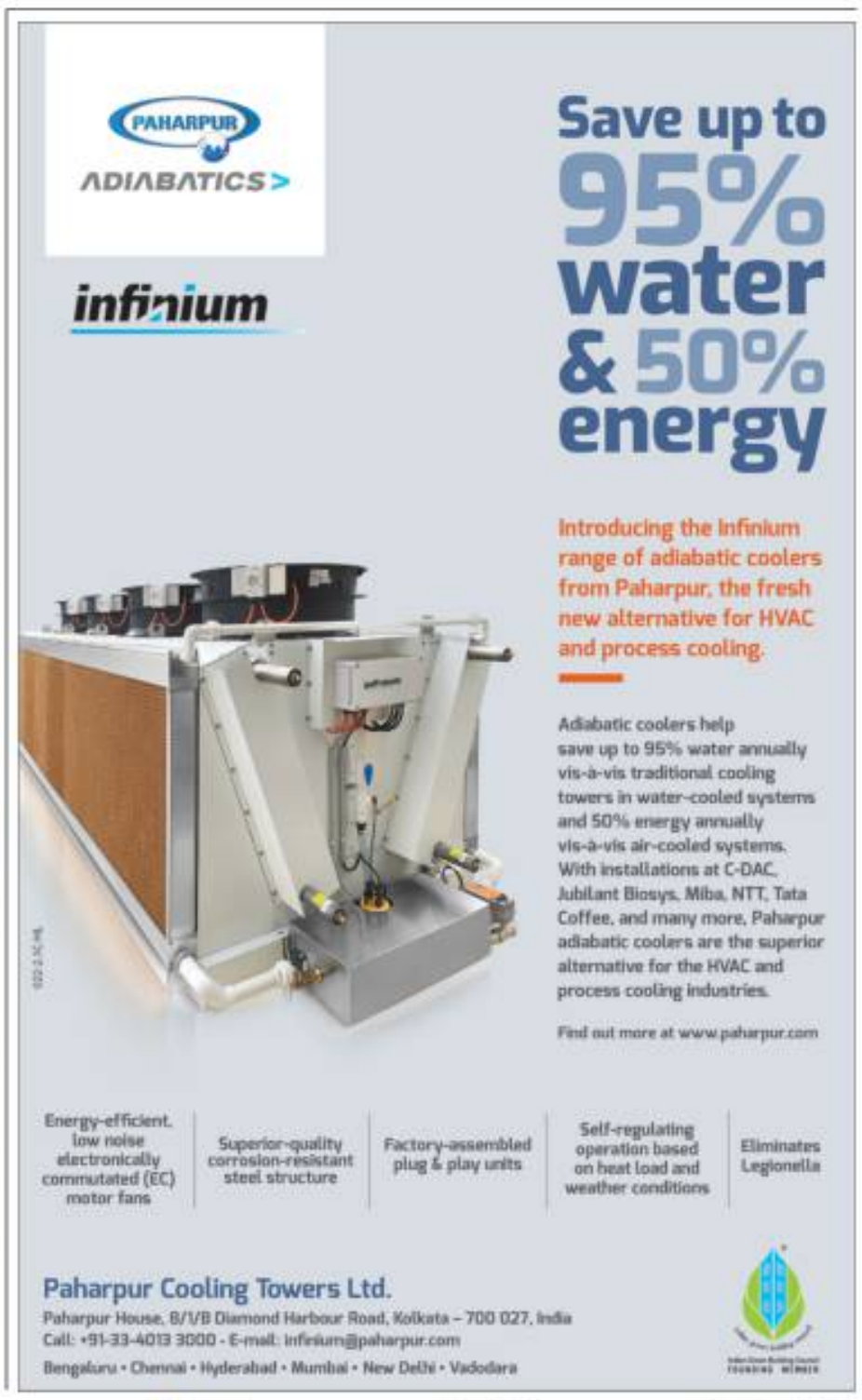
After a gap of one year, ATM thieves struck again, targetting four kiosks of the State Bank of India (SBI) on St. Mark's Road by jamming the cash dispenser to steal cash from the machine.

The accused made 65 fraudulent transactions to withdraw ₹6.2 lakh. Though the incident occurred between July 4 and 6, officials filed a complaint last Wednesday to get back the lost money through insurance, the police said.

The CCTV footage from the cameras installed on the bank campus revealed that the accused was wearing a helmet and used different cards to withdraw cash. As soon as the cash was seen, the accused would jam the dispenser to block the sensor at the time. As the machine got jammed, the transactions would not be completed even if the money was withdrawn. Using this method, the accused made 65 transactions to withdraw the cash and was seen filling his bag and pockets, the police said.

No security personnel were around, and bank officials said that they had withdrawn security guards a few months ago as it was decided in the annual review meeting that security was not required at ATMs, the police added.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 2


PAHARPUR
ADIABATICS
infinium
Save up to 95% water & 50% energy
Introducing the Infinium range of adiabatic coolers from Paharpur, the fresh new alternative for HVAC and process cooling.
Adiabatic coolers help save up to 95% water annually vis-à-vis traditional cooling towers in water-cooled systems and 50% energy annually vis-à-vis air-cooled systems. With installations at C-DAC, Jubilant Biosys, Miba, NTT, Tata Coffee, and many more, Paharpur adiabatic coolers are the superior alternative for the HVAC and process cooling industries.
Find out more at www.paharpur.com
Energy-efficient, low noise electronically commutated (EC) motor fans
Superior-quality corrosion-resistant steel structure
Factory-assembled plug & play units
Self-regulating operation based on heat load and weather conditions
Eliminates Legionella
Paharpur Cooling Towers Ltd.
Paharpur House, 8/1/B Diamond Harbour Road, Kolkata – 700 027, India
Call: +91-33-4013 3000 - E-mail: infinium@paharpur.com
Bengaluru • Chennai • Hyderabad • Mumbai • New Delhi • Vadodara

Jio tops as 5G auction nets ₹1.5 lakh crore

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

India's biggest ever auction of telecom spectrum received a record ₹1.5 lakh crore of bids, with Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Jio cornering almost half of all the airwaves sold with bids totalling ₹88,078 crore.

Billionaire Gautam Adani's group paid ₹212 crore for 400 MHz, or less than 1% of all spectrum sold, in a band that is not used for public telephony services.

Telecom tycoon Sunil Bharti Mittal's Bharti Airtel made a successful bid of ₹43,084 crore, while Vodafone Idea Ltd. bought spectrum for ₹18,799 crore.

Telecommunication Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said of the 72,098 MHz of spectrum offered across 10 bands, 51,236 MHz, or 71%, was sold.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8

GST collections jump by 28% to ₹1.49 lakh crore on imports

July's receipts are the second-highest monthly figure

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

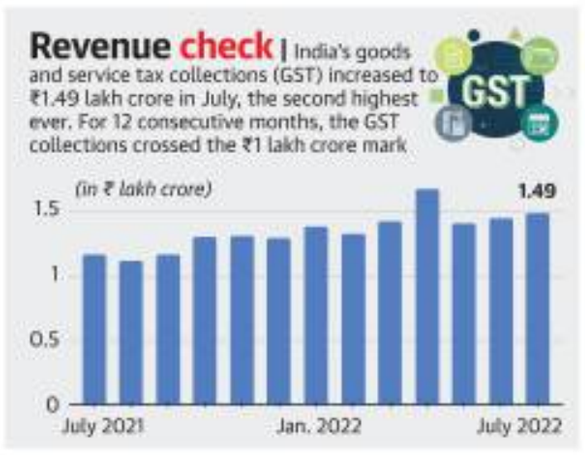
The Goods and Services Tax (GST) yielded ₹1,48,995 crore in revenues during July, the second-highest monthly collections since the launch of the GST regime and the highest in three months.

July's GST kitty is 28% higher than a year earlier, driven by a 48% surge in revenue from import of goods, while revenue from domestic transactions, including import of services, was 22% higher than in July 2021.

The Finance Ministry said better reporting coupled with economic recovery had had a consistently positive impact on GST revenues, which were 35% higher in the April-July period than a year earlier. The revenues display a "very high buoyancy" and are "a clear impact" of various measures taken by the GST Council to improve compliance, it added.

"For five months in a row... monthly GST revenues have been more than ₹1.4 lakh crore, showing a steady increase every month," the Ministry said.

Revenues include Central GST of ₹25,751 crore, State GST of ₹32,807 crore, and Integrated GST of ₹79,518 crore, including ₹41,420 crore on import of goods.


Revenue check | India's goods and service tax collections (GST) increased to ₹1.49 lakh crore in July, the second highest ever. For 12 consecutive months, the GST collections crossed the ₹1 lakh crore mark
GST
(in ₹ lakh crore)
1.49
1.5
1
0.5
0
July 2021
Jan. 2022
July 2022

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8

THE HINDU

Text & Context

FOLLOW US:
thehindu.com
facebook.com/thehindu
twitter.com/the_hindu
instagram.com/the_hindu

NEWS IN NUMBERS

GST collection

28 In percentage, the rise in Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection at ₹1.49 lakh crore in July on the back of economic recovery and steps taken to curb tax evasion, according to the government. GST collection stood at ₹1,16,393 crore in the same month a year ago. GST, introduced in July 2017, touched a record high of ₹1.68 lakh crore in April 2022. This collection is the second highest. This is the sixth time that the monthly GST collection crossed the ₹1.40-lakh-crore mark since the inception of GST, the Ministry said in a statement. PTI

5G spectrum auction

1.5 In ₹ lakh crore, the worth of the 5G telecom spectrum sold in a seven-day auction that ended on Monday. The mop-up from the 5G spectrum, capable of offering ultra-high speed mobile internet connectivity, is almost double the ₹77,815 crore worth of 4G airwaves sold last year and triple of ₹50,968 crore garnered from the 3G auction in 2010. Reliance Jio was the top bidder to the airwaves capable of offering speeds about 10 times faster than 4G.It was followed by Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea Ltd. PTI

Income Tax Returns

5.83 In crore, the number of Income Tax Returns (ITR) received by the Income Tax Department, by the end of FY22 filing season on July 31, according to officials. The due date for filing of ITRs by salaried class and individual category taxpayers, who do not have to get their accounts audited for the fiscal ending March 31, 2022, was July 31. According to the latest rules, a late fee of ₹5,000 would be payable by those (with an annual income of over ₹5 lakh) who file their ITR by December 31 . PTI

Power consumption

128.38 In billion units (BU), India's power consumption in July, rising by 3.8% amid widespread rains in the country, according to the Power Ministry. Power consumption in July 2021 was recorded at 123.72 BU while it was 112.14 BU in July 2020. The peak power supply stood at 200 GW in July 2021 and 170 GW in July 2020. Power consumption and demand were affected in July 2020 due to the impact of the lockdown restrictions to curb the spread of the pandemic. PTI

Rojgar Andolan

200 The number of student and youth bodies, trade unions, teachers' associations and intellectuals to gather at Jantar Mantar on August 16 as part of the week-long 'Rojgar Andolan' to demand a national employment policy in India. The Rojgar Andolan will be organised under the banner of Sanyukta Rojgar Andolan Samiti (SRAS) and will continue till August 22. The 'National Employment Policy' was prepared by the think tank Desh Ki Baat Foundation, founded by Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

EXPLAINER

AlphaFold: A tour de force in science

How have our methods of predicting protein structures changed with AI-based tools? What does this development signify for structural biology?

THE GIST

- DeepMind, a company owned by Google, announced this week that it had predicted the three-dimensional structures of more than 200 million proteins using AlphaFold.
- AlphaFold is an AI-based protein structure prediction tool. It used processes based on "training, learning, retraining and relearning" to predict the structures of the entire 214 million unique protein sequences deposited in the Universal Protein Resource (UniProt) database.
- The Indian community of structural biology needs to take advantage of the AlphaFold database and learn how to use the structures to design better vaccines and drugs.

BINAY PANDA

The story so far: DeepMind, a company based in London and owned by Google, announced this week that it had predicted the three-dimensional structures of more than 200 million proteins using AlphaFold. This is the entire protein universe known to scientists today.

What is AlphaFold?
AlphaFold is an AI-based protein structure prediction tool. It is based on a computer system called deep neural network. Inspired by the human brain, neural networks use a large amount of input data and provides the desired output exactly like how a human brain would. The real work is done by the black box between the input and the output layers, called the hidden networks. AlphaFold is fed with protein sequences as input. When protein sequences enter through one end, the predicted three-dimensional structures come out through the other. It is like a magician pulling a rabbit out of a hat.

How does AlphaFold work?
It uses processes based on "training, learning, retraining and relearning." The first step uses the available structures of 1,70,000 proteins in the Protein Data Bank (PDB) to train the computer model. Then, it uses the results of that training to learn the structural predictions of proteins not in the PDB. Once that is done, it uses the high-accuracy predictions from the first step to retrain and relearn to gain higher accuracy of the earlier predictions. By using this method, AlphaFold has now predicted the structures of the entire 214 million unique protein sequences deposited in the Universal Protein Resource (UniProt) database.

What are the implications of this development?
Proteins are the business ends of biology, meaning proteins carry out all the functions inside a living cell. Therefore, knowing protein structure and function is essential to understanding human diseases. Scientists predict protein structures using x-ray crystallography, nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy, or cryogenic electron microscopy. These techniques are not just time-consuming, they often take years and are based mainly on trial-and-error methods. The development of AlphaFold changes all of that. It is a watershed movement in science and structural biology in particular.

AlphaFold has already helped hundreds of scientists accelerate their discoveries in vaccine and drug development since the first public release of the database nearly a year back.

What does this development mean for India?
From the seminal contribution of G. N. Ramachandran in understanding protein structures to the present day, India is no stranger to the field and has produced some fine structural biologists. The Indian community of structural biology is strong and skilled. It needs to quickly take advantage of the AlphaFold database and learn how to use the structures to design better vaccines and drugs. This is especially important in the present context. Understanding the accurate structures of COVID-19 virus proteins in days rather than years will accelerate vaccine and drug development against the virus.

India will also need to speed up its implementation of public-private partnerships in the sciences.

AlphaFold has already helped hundreds of scientists accelerate their discoveries in vaccine and drug development

The public-private partnership between the European Molecular Biology Laboratory's European Bioinformatics Institute and DeepMind made the 25-terabyte AlphaFold dataset accessible to everyone in the scientific community at no cost.

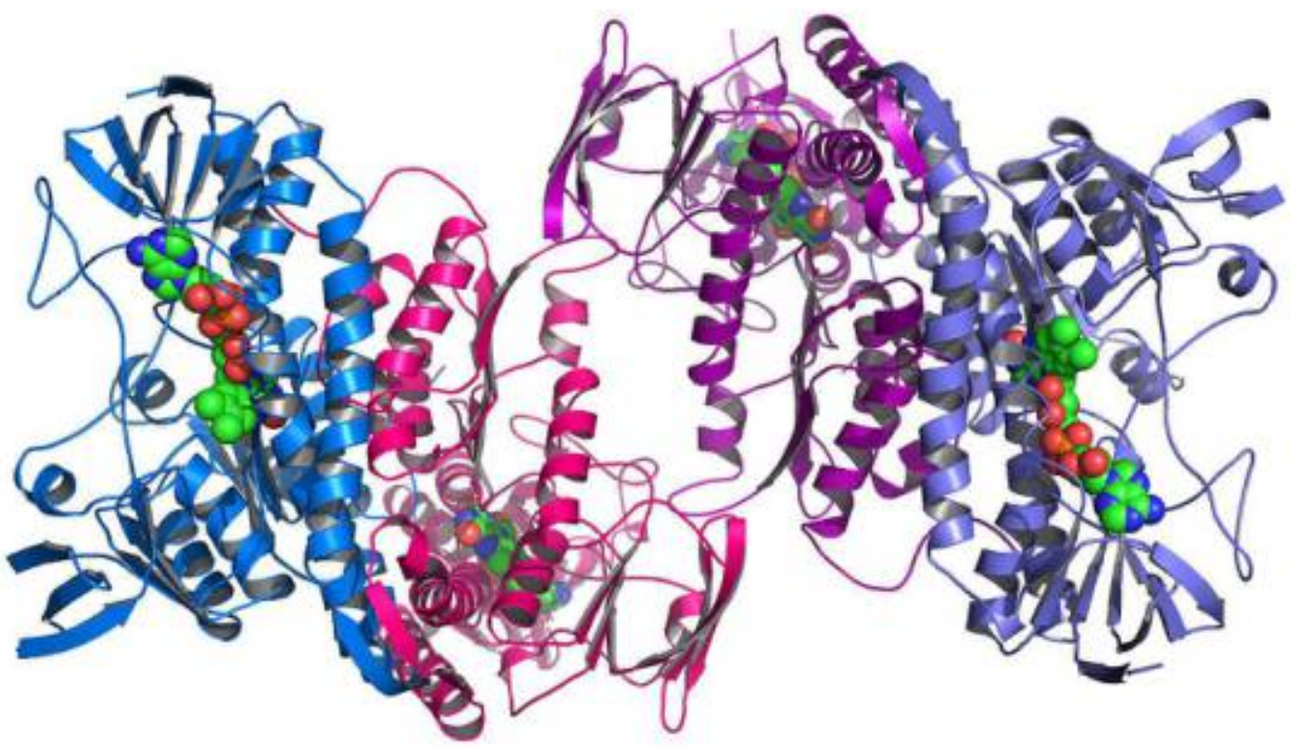
Learning from this, India could facilitate joint collaborations with the prevalent hardware muscle and data science talent in the private sector and specialists in academic institutions to pave the way for data science innovations.

Is AlphaFold one-of-a-kind tool in predicting protein structures?
Although a tour-de-force in structural biology, like any other method, AlphaFold is neither flawless nor the only AI-based protein structure prediction tool. RoseTTaFold, developed by David Baker at the University of Washington in Seattle, U.S., is another tool. Although less accurate than AlphaFold, it can predict the structure of protein complexes.

The development of AlphaFold is sure to make many scientists feel vulnerable, especially when they compare their efforts from years of hard work in the lab to that of a computer system. However, this is the time to adjust and take advantage of the new reality.

Doing this will reinvigorate scientific research and accelerate discovery.

Binay Panda is a Professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi



•(CC BY-NC-SA 2.0)

EXPLAINER

The dwindling fighter strength of the IAF

How is the Indian Air Force planning to increase fighter aircraft? Do the MIG-21 jets still have technical life left?

THE GIST

- In a tragic accident, a MIG-21 trainer jet of the IAF crashed in Rajasthan last Thursday killing both the pilots onboard.
- The MIG-21 was inducted into the IAF in the early 1960s. Currently, there are four MIG-21 squadrons in service. IAF officials have stated that there is technical life still left in them.
- The IAF has an authorised strength of 42 fighter squadrons. As time passes, the drawdown is increasing as the total technical life is completed. However, the rate of new inductions is not matching the drawdown, depleting the overall number of fighter squadrons.

DINAKAR PERI

The story so far: In a tragic accident, a MIG-21 trainer jet of the Indian Air Force (IAF) crashed in Rajasthan last Thursday killing both the pilots onboard, Wing Commander M. Rana and Flight Lieutenant Advitiya Bal. This has once again put the focus on the MIG-21 jets as well as on the IAF's fighter strength and modernisation.

What is the status of the MIG-21 jets in the IAF?
The MIG-21 was inducted into the IAF in the early 1960s and since then more than 800 variants of the supersonic fighter were inducted into service. It remained the frontline fighter jet of the force for a long time. During this period, there were over 400 accidents involving the jet which claimed the lives of around 200 pilots. Currently, there are four MIG-21 squadrons in service consisting of the upgraded Bison variant. IAF officials have stated that there is technical life still left in them.

There are only four squadrons of the MIG-21 aircraft, the IAF informed the Parliamentary Standing Committee on defence as per a report tabled in March this year. "As and when the technical life is complete, we can't keep them extra even for a day, and we don't keep them either. Life extension is done for some aircraft. In that regard, we now have the Bison aircraft remaining, which are upgraded, but still old. There is no doubt about that," an IAF representative told the committee.

With delays in new inductions, the IAF has been forced to continue the last four MIG-21 Bison squadrons in service. One squadron is set to be phased out in the next few months, while the remaining three squadrons are planned to be phased out in the next three years. This phase out was worked out much before last week's tragic incident.

What is the present fighter strength of the IAF?
The IAF has an authorised strength of 42 fighter squadrons. As time passes, the drawdown is increasing as the total technical life is completed. However, the rate of new inductions is not matching the drawdown, depleting the overall number of fighter squadrons. Additionally, several frontline aircraft in the inventory including the Jaguars, MIG-29s will begin phasing out by the end of the decade. For instance, by 2027-28 the first of the MIG-29s, inducted in the late 1980s, will start going out.

In the last few years, the IAF has inducted two squadrons of the indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas and two squadrons of Rafale fighter jets procured from France which pushed the squadron strength to 32.

In January 2021, the IAF had signed a contract with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for 83 of the more advanced LCA MK-IA which it will start receiving from early 2024 onwards. Along with that the to-be-acquired 114 Multi-Role Fighter Aircraft (MRFA) will help arrest the drawdown, the IAF said.

A larger and even more capable LCA-MK2 as well as the fifth generation Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) are under development. However, their availability in enough numbers will take some time.

What is the roadmap to shore up the fighter strength?
The IAF has acknowledged that they will not be able to achieve the desired strength for the time being and that they are doing the best they can. In addition to the indigenous aircraft coming up, the IAF is confident that increasing the low availability rates of Su-30 and other fighters in service will offset some of the shortfall in the interim. However, that could be potentially impacted due to the war in Ukraine even though officials have said that they are assessing the impact of the war and western sanctions.

"But the interesting fact is that we have ended up spending a large amount when we got the funds last to last year and last year on revenue spares. There is also a very large number of Sukhoi-30 and other fighters on ground and we are hopeful that when those spares start coming from this year onwards, we will be able to actually add some squadrons," the IAF representative had informed the standing committee.

The representative further added: "Serviceability state, as you are aware, has been low. Once we get that, the existing strength itself we can ramp up before the new aircraft come in. That is the best we are looking at for us as of now." In the last seven to eight years, several steps have been taken to increase the serviceability rates of the Russian equipment in use, especially the Su-30MKI fleet which constitutes a significant number in the IAF inventory. Part of the measures are long term spares and support agreements as well as joint ventures in India with Russian original equipment manufacturers for faster turnaround.

Government of Karnataka
REVENUE DEPARTMENT
Bhoomi Monitoring Cell,
First Floor, SSLR Building, KR Circle, Bengaluru - 560001.
Phone no 080-22113255, Email: bhoomi.bmc01@gmail.com

No: BMC/ADM/TEN/01/2022-23 **Date: 01.08.2022**

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited for procurement of Supply & Installation of Anti Virus Software Licences to Systems of Bhoomi Project, Revenue Department. The last date for uploading filled tender forms in e-procurement portal is **17.08.2022 by 5.00 PM**. Details regarding terms and conditions of the said tender are available at **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** portal.

Sd/-
Assistant Commissioner,
Bhoomi Monitoring Cell,
Revenue Department.

DIPR/CP/1614/Zenkar/2022-23

BACKWARD CLASSES WELFARE DEPARTMENT
Office of the District Officer, Bengaluru Urban District, 1st Floor, Podium Block, Vishveshwariah Centre, Bengaluru - 560001.
Phone: 080-22867628, E-mail: dobcmbengaluruurban1@gmail.com

No: DBC/BNGU/KM/CR-10/2021-22 **Date: 19-07-2022**

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited through e-Procurement in Two Cover System by the eligible firms for Supply of Food and Other Materials to Hostels of Pre-Matric and Post Matric for the year 2022-23 maintained by Backward Classes Welfare Department in District Level at Bengaluru North / South / East and Anekal Taluks of Bengaluru Urban District.

Sl. No.	Name of Taluk	Approx. Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	Anekal	90.23	1.35
2	Bengaluru East	264.60	3.97
3	Bengaluru North	406.35	6.09
4	Bengaluru South	369.60	5.54

Further details and tender documents may be obtained **from 20-07-2022** through Website: **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** Last date for submission of tender through e-Portal is **upto 5.30 PM on 20-08-2022.**

Sd/- District Officer
Backward Classes Department,
Bengaluru Urban District, Bengaluru.

DIPR/DDU/Advertsl/1602/2022-23

HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19? CALL APTHAMITRA ON 14410
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

ಕರ್ನಾಟಿಕ ರಸ್ತೆ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಒಂದು ಉದ್ಯಮ)
ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ಸೌಧ, ನಯಿ ನಂ.8 (ಬಿ.ಇ.ಪಿ. ಆವರಣ) ಡಾ। ರಾಜ್‌ಕುಮಾರ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ರಾಜಾಜಿನಗರ ೨ನೇ ಹಂತ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560010 ಫೋನ್ ನಂ.080-22024000
ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ 080-22024000 ಇ-ಮೇಲ್: mdkrdcl@gmail.com, cekrdcl@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕರಪನಿ/ಪ್ರನಿ/ಮು.ಹ.ಆ/ಲೆ.ಹ/2022-23/IFB/13 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30.07.2022

ಕೊಟೇಷನ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಿಕ ರಸ್ತೆ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ ದೊಗಳೂರು ಕಛೇರಿಗೆ **ಆಗಸ್ಟ್-2022** ರಿಂದ ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ಲೇಪನ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿ ಹೌಸ್‌ಕೀಪಿಂಗ್ ಇತರೆ ಕಛೇರಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಾತ್ಮಕ ದರದಲ್ಲಿ ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡಲು ದರಪಟ್ಟಿ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅರ್ಹತೆ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ / ಸರಬರಾಜುದಾರರು ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳಂದು ಮಾರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂಗಳನ್ನು ಪಾವತಿಸಿ ಪಡೆಯುವುದು.

ವಿವರಗಳು:

1. ಮಾರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂಗಳನ್ನು ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಲಾದ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಪಾವತಿಸಿ ಪಡೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **05.08.2022** ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ **11.30** ಗಂಟೆಯಿಂದ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **4.30** ರೊಳಗೆ.
2. ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಚ್ಚಿದ ಲಕೋಟೆಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು **ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16.08.2022** ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **4.00** ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ.
3. ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲಾದ ಕೊಟೇಷನ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 17.08.2022** ರಂದು ಅಥವಾ ನಂತ್ರ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು ಹಾಜರಿರುವ ಬಿಡ್ದಾರರ ಸಮಕ್ಷಮದಲ್ಲಿ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು.
4. ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ದರ ನಮೂದಿಸಿ ಆಯ್ಕೆಯಾದ ಬಿಡ್ದಾರರು ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ರೂಪಿ ರೂ.50,000/- ಗಳ (ಬಿಡ್ಡಿ ರಹಿತ) ಮೊತ್ತವನ್ನು ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಕೃತ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನಿಂದ ಡಿ.ಡಿ ರೂಪದಲ್ಲಿ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕ.ರ.ಆ.ನಿ.ನಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಇವರ ಹೆಸರಿಗೆ ಪಡೆದು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು. ಸದರಿ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಯನ್ನು ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಅವಧಿ ಸಂಕಲ ಹಿಂತಿರುಗಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.
5. ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲಾದ ಯಾವುದೇ ಅಥವಾ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಕೊಟೇಷನ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಕಾರಣ ನೀಡದೇ ಪರಿಗಣಿಸುವ ಅಥವಾ ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕ.ರಾ.ರ.ನಿ.ನಿ, ಇವರು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ.

ಸಹಿ/- ಮುಖ್ಯ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ
ಕ.ರ.ಆ.ನಿ.ನಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ದೇಹದಿಂದ 1ಮೀ. ಅಂತರ ಇರಲಿ; ಮುಖಕ್ಕವಸಕ ಧರಿಸಿ
ಮುಖವಸ್ತ್ರ ಧರಿಸಿ | ದೈಹಿಕ ಅಂತರ ಕಾಪಾಡಿ | ಕೈಗಳ ಸ್ವಚ್ಛತೆ ಕಾಪಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಿ

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(SHARAVATHY VALLEY PROJECT)
CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919

No. KPCL/2022-23/GH/WORK_INDENT12690 Date: 22.07.2022

ABSTRACT TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-procurement platform)

Bids in two parts are invited through e-procurement portal for **Operation & maintenance of gates, gantries, hoists and other hydro mechanical equipments of Linganamakki Dam, Gerusoppa Dam, Mani Dam, Pick up Dam & Chakra diversion control structures along with loading and unloading of materials and other store activities at Jog central store for a period of Two years** from reputed bidders/ regular contractor/ agency/ firm who have carried out similar kind of work/ Servicing and maintenance of dam gates, gantries, hoists, other hydro mechanical equipments in any PSU's/ State Govt./ Central Govt./ Govt. Undertaking or any reputed organizations (Hydro). Approx. cost put to tender: **Rs. 1,20,29,000 Lakhs** incl. of all taxes. EMD: **Rs. 200000/-**. The details of tender documents can also seen on website: **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** Pre-Bid meeting: **08.08.2022 at 11.00 Hrs.** Last date & time for online submission of bids: **22.08.2022 at 16.00 Hrs.** Opening of Part-I (Technical Bid): **23.08.2022 at 16.30 Hrs.** Opening of Part-II (Financial Bid): **24.08.2022 at 16.45 Hrs.** if possible or any other convenient date which will be separately. Further details can be had from **Superintending Engineer (Mechanical)** Sharavathy, KPCL, Jog Falls - 577 435, Sagara-Tq, Shivamogga (Dist.) E-mail: semsjkpcl@gmail.com Mobile: +91 94495 98848.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ -581 301.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 08382-228935, ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್: 229735 e-mail: eerdwsd.uk@gmail.com
ನಂ:ಕಾನೀಂ/ಗ್ರಾಕುನೀಸ್ವಿ/ಕಾದಾವಾ/ಎಬಿ-1/ಟೆಂದಾ/JJM/2022-23/086 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30.07.2022

ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ ಕಾರವಾರ ಇವರಿಂದ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ/ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಿಗೆ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಿದ ಅರ್ಹ ಹಾಗೂ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಿಂದ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಸರಬರಾಜು ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಮಂಜೂರಾದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಏಂದು ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಕಾನೂನು ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿ 2000 ಹಾಗೂ **Standard Tender Document KW-4** ನಂತೆ ಪತ್ರಂಬಂಧ ಕಾಲಾವಕಾಶ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾದ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಆದೇಶಗಳನ್ವಯ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತೆ ಬಹುಮಾದು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಇ-ಆಡಳಿತ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಥವಾ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಂತೆ, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರಗಳು ಇರುತ್ತವೆ.

ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಹೆಸರು: (1) Indent 40907/call-2 (2) Indent 40414/call-3 (3) Indent 40381/call-3

(1) Downloading of document through e-proc portal: **01.08.2022 to 08.08.2022 up to 16.30 Hrs.** (2) Time & date of Pre-Bid Conference: **03.08.2022 Time : 11.30 Hrs.** Venue: O/o. Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Po: Habbuwada, Karwar- Uttara Kannada Dist. (3) Last Date & Time for Receipt of Bids: **08.08.2022 Time : 16.30 Hrs.** (4) Date & Time of Technical Bid Opening: **09.08.2022 Time : 17:00 Hrs.** (5) Date & Time of Financial Bid Opening: Will be informed technically qualified bidders after approval of Technical Bid.

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರರು
ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಕಾರವಾರ (ಉ.ಕ.ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ)

DIPR/KJ(KWSDA)/270/22-23 dt.28.07.2022

Tumakuru City Corporation, Tumakuru
Website: www.tumkurcity.mrc.gov.in Phone No: 2278480, Fax: 2275106 e-mail : itstaff_ulb_tumkur@yahoo.com Grievance: 0816-2278480,Fax-2275106
No:TCC/Engineer Section/Tender/CR/99/2022-23 DATED: 28.07.2022

Tender Notification

The Commissioner, Tumakuru City Corporation, Tumakuru invites tenders as per the KTPP act 1999-2000 through e-Procurement portal for 2022-23 SFC Fund. Eligible Contractors with class PWD Licence can Participate in the Tender. For more information go to website: www.tumakuru ctiy.gov.in.

Description of work: 1. Appointment of Independent Chartered Engineering Agency (ICEA). Tender Amount (in Lakhs): 58.35. EMD (in Rupees): 116706/-

Contractors can download and submit the Tenders through e-Procurement portal www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Calendar of Events and other information are as follows:

1. Date of receipt of Tenders: **28.07.2022 to 03.08.2022.** 2. Last Date for Submission of Tenders:03.08.**2022** at 4.40 pm **3.** Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids) : **08.08.2022** at 11.00am. Postponement of calendar of events (if any) is only through e-Procurement portal and will not be published in newspapers.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
DIPR/TUM/371/MCA/2022-23 Tumakur City Corporation Tumakuru

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No.: 903/SEE/T(W&M)/Civil/22-23-CYS-16 Date: 30.07.2022

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION

(THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT MODE ONLY)

KPTCL invites bids for **Station Improvement Civil Engineering works** coming under the jurisdiction of Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Hubballi.

The detailed notification regarding the works called through the "e-procurement" mode can be obtained by logging on to e-procurement's website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele.),
Transmission (W & M) Circle, KPTCL,
Vidyuthnagar, Karwar Road, Hubballi - 580 024.

KARNATAKA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION
Central Offices, Mechanical Engg., Dept.,
Shanthinagar, Bengaluru-560027

NOTICE INVITING SHORT TERM TENDER
TENDER NO: T-130 Dated: 02.08.2022
(Through e-procurement mode only)

(1) KSRTC invites Short Term Tender through E-Procurement Portal for refurbishing of 950 Nos. buses on job contract basis for KSRTC and NWKRTC as detailed below:
(a) KSRTC : 700 Nos.
(b) NWKRTC : 250 Nos.
Total : 950 Nos.

(2) Last date for bid submission in e-procurement portal on **23.08.2022 @ 17:30** Hours.

Further, any addendum / corrigendum in respect of change in calendar of events, scope, other tender terms & conditions etc., will be uploaded / published through e-protal only.

Note: Interested bidders need to register in the GoK e-procurement portal **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** for details. In case of further assistance, the bidders may contact e-procurement Help Desk support ph: 080-22230960 & 080-22234115 or email at **eprocurementhelpdesk@gmail.com**. Interested suppliers may also contact e-procurement cell for training on bid submission. E-mail to eprocurementhelpdesk@gmail.com for further information if required.

Sd/-,
Chief Mechanical Engineer
(Tender Inviting Authority)

DIPR/CP/LC/1588/2022-23

COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

Women and Child Development, Department
Department of Women and Child Development, 1st Floor, New District Court, Kolar-563101. e-Mail: ddwodkolar@gmail.com
Telephone: 08152-222753

No: DCPUK/ICPS/ADMIN/Tender/2022-23 Date: 25.07.2022

e-Tender Notification

Department of Women and Child Development under integrated Child Protection Scheme e-Tender Publication inviting through e-Procurement for the Supply/Provide Service by Eligible or Qualified Man Power Agencies can apply (As Per KTPP act 1999 Rules of 2000) for the Tender Publication.

(1) Commencement date of tender publication: **26.07.2022. (2)** Last date for submission of tender form: **16.08.2022 before 5.00 PM. (3)** Time and date of opening of technical bid: **e-Procurement Portal Date: 18.08.2022 before 5.10 PM. (4)** Time and date of opening of Financial bid: **20.08.2022 afternoon 12.00. (5)** Amount of EMD to be paid with tender: **Rs.2,00,000/-** (Two Lakhs Rupees Only). **(6)** Total estimated amount of tender of District Child Protecton Unit, Kolar along with 07 Government Child Care Institutions: **Rs.95,00,000/- (Ninty Five Lakh Rupees Only). Website: www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** For more information contact district child protection officer, district child protection unit, kolar-563101.

Sd/- Deputy Director,
Department of Women and Child Development,
Kolar District.

ಪ್ರಾಸಂಸಂಇ/ಕೋಲಾರ/ಆರ್.ಓ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ213/ಎಂ.ಸಿ.ಎ/2022-23

COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer, Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited, MLBC Division No.1 ,Ramdurg.-591123

No: EE/ KNNL/ MLBC-1/PB/SCP-TSP/Tender Notification No: 503, Dated:30/07/2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

Percentage Tenders by e-procurement portal in the prescribed form in TWO Cover System is invited by the undersigned on behalf of Managing Director, KNNL, Bangalore from the eligible Contractor under the Head of Account 4701 SCP/TSP The No. of work is 01. The approxi mate cost of amount put to tender is varies from Rs.55.00 lakhs EMD Rs. 1,10,000 in e-porcurment portal in single transaction. Contractor can access and submission of completed e-tendering documents from 02/08/2022 to 15/08/2022 upto 16.00 hours in the website http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in. Technical Bid will be opened on 17/08/2022 @ 16.00 Hrs. And after approval of Technical Bid the date of Financial Bid opening will be intimated to the qualified bidders. Stipulated period for completion of work 06 Month (Including Monsoon).

For more conditions and details visit website http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in. OR at undersigned in all working days during office hours on telephone No. 08335-242143

Sd/-Executive Engineer,
KNNL, MLBCC, Division No.1 Ramdurg.

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-442/MCA/2022-23

University of Agricultural Sciences
Estate Office, GKVK, Bengaluru-560065.

No. EO/SPO/e-Proc/126/2022-23 Date:28-07-2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement Portal only)

The University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru has invited Tender in the prescribed form as per the Standard tender document KG-1 & KG-2, from the reputed firms for the procurement of the following equipments. **Sl No. 1 to 7.** The details of the KG-1 & KG-2, Tender Notification, Schedule, Specifications are available in the website **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in**. The cost of the Tender document is as per e-procurement portal NORMS. The EMD shall be paid using e-procurement payment modes.

Blank Tender Documents can be downloaded from **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in**. Last date and time for uploading the tender on **17-08-2022 up to 4.00 p.m.** The Financial bid will be opened on **19-08-2022 at 10.30 a.m.** in the Tender Committee room of Estate Office. Further details can be had from the office of the undersigned during working hours and also refer UAS Website: **www.uasbangalore.edu.in**. Help Desk- 91-8046010000, +91-8068948777 **hphelpdesk.blr@intervo.com**. The University reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons.

Sd/-
Estate Officer

DIPR/CP/1609/Zenkar/2022-23

CLASSIFIEDS MART
TO ADVERTISE:
www.thehinduads.com
Bengaluru: Tel: 9845529981 • 080-22071826
Mangaluru: Tel: 0824-2417575 • 2417580
Hubballi: Tel: 0836-2338600 • 2335700

EDUCATIONAL
GENERAL

AnthroRUN
Anthropology Crash Course
MAINS 2022

Mrs. Sonia Revella
20th 21st 22nd
Q & A Sessions
August 2022
10AM to 2:00PM
Offline @ Hyderabad
Online @ Live Streaming
Google Meet
Scan to Register
50 + Important areas discussed swiftly in Q & A format.
Focus on building structure of the answers.
Value addition with latest studies.
Class followed by doubts clarification in Live Streaming.
SosinClasses HYDERABAD
99899 66744
90000 36699

EDUCATIONAL
VACANCIES

VACANCY IN Nursing College. A Nursing college in West Bengal urgently required Principal, Vice- Principal and Associate Professors for it's GNM and B.Sc Nursing departments. Qualifications:As per INC. Attractive remuneration. Send your CVs: manbhumnursing@gmail.com/manbhumedu@gmail.com

PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME

I, NAZIA Sultana B A, W/o Shaik Mansur, R/a No.113, 13th E Street, Shivaji Road, Shivaji Nagar, Bangalore-560051 have changed my name to Nazia Sultana vide affidavit dt: 01.08.2022 sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, B'lore.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
The general public is hereby informed that my client is intended to purchase the below mention property from its owner MR ANAND RAJ s/o late S Alexander R/o #780,17th F main ,3rd cross , kormanagala 6th block ,Bangalore 95if anybody having any objection, claim, interest,dispute,for the above intended sale transaction, he/she/they may contact the undersigned with the documentary proof sustaining their objection /claim / dispute within seven (7) days from this day of publication, failing which my client will proceed with the sale transaction with the above owner as if their is no objection /claim/ dispute on the schedule property, and thereafter no claims / disputes /objections shal not be entertained

Schedule Property
Site no 29, khata no 44/1 , Property no 44/1, Begur Village, Begur Hobli , presently under bbmp , measuring 3456 sft (54'x64') beside Gibs college, mylasandra road, Begur, bangalore.

Sd /- Khaja samiullah haruni
Ph 8123801142
samiharuni@ gmail.com
Through sugata associates and lawyers karamangala, bangalore

TENDERS

No.HRAOA/TN/2002 Date: 22.07.2022

NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR PAINTING & WATER PROOFING

The Secretary, Hillte Residency Apartments Owners Association invites separate sealed Item Rate tenders under a Two-part Bid System containing Part-1 (Technical Bid) & Part-II (Financial Bid) from the eligible contractors for the following works to be carried out at Kozhikode:

1. **Tender-1:** Exterior painting of three nos of 19 story residential building towers admeasuring approximately 60000 sq.mtrs.
2. **Tender-2:** Interior painting of three nos of 19 story residential building towers admeasuring approximately 20000 sq.mtrs.
3. **Tender-3:** Roof water proofing, including re-insatallation of expansion joints covering an approximate area of up to 4500 sq.mtrs.

Tender documents can be collected from "Facility Manager, HRAOA, Hillte Residency, Palazhi, Guruvayurappan College P.O, Kozhikode, Kerala-673014, E-mail: mchrassociation@gmail.com" by paying Rs. 2000.00 (Rupees Two Thousand only) (GST @ 18% extra) for each tender document, **Nonrefundable**, in the form of DD only in favor of **Hillte Residency Apartments Owners Association** or in cash. Tender documents will be sent to outstation contractors by courier on request. Last date for receipt of completed tenders is 20 August 2022.

- Secretary, HRAOA

District Urban Development Cell, Ballari.

No: DUDC/B/MAN/4/Siruguppa/1/2022-23 **Date:27 .07.2022**

"TENDER NOTIFICATION"

The Deputy commissioner, Ballari District Invites tenders in two cover system using standard tender documents from **Eligible** contractors for The **Chief Ministeres Amruth NAGAROTHANA (Municipality) Phase 04 Project in City Municipal Council Siruguppa limits in Ballari District** details as below.

Name of the Works & Indent No: Siruguppa Name of work : Improvements of Roads, construction of CC drains at various wards in Siruguppa CMC limits Ballari District under Chief Minister's Amrut Nagarothana (Municipality) Phase-4DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT134235. **Estimate Cost(Rs in Lakhs):** 1391.78. **Amount put to tender(Rs in Lakhs):** 1235.64. **EMD(in.Rs):** 13,92,000/-

Interested Contractors shall register on the e-procurement platform to participate in this tender, Contractors can download the tender documents from the e-procurement platform. Tenders shall be submitted electronically & tender processing fee shall also be paid electronically. 1. Last date & time for tender queries / clarifications: **26.08.2022 at 16:00 Hrs.** 2. Pre Bid Meeting : **08.08.2022 at 11.00 hrs.** 3. Last date and time for receipt of tender technical bids: **29.08.2022 at 17.30 hrs.** 4. Date & time for opening of (Technical bids): **01.09.2022 at 11:00 Hrs.** 5. Date & time for opening of (Financial bids): **12.09.2022 at 11:00 Hrs.** 6. Auto extension of tender schedule : **07 days**

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
District Urban Development cell, Ballari.

DIPR/Ballari/318/MCA/2022-23

KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED
(A Govt. of Karnataka Undertaking)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
FIC Div. No.1, KBJNL, Awarad Tq. Jewargi.Dist:Kalaburagi

No.KBJNL/FIC/Divn-1/PB/TND/2022-23/151 Date:29.07.2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through E-procurement only)

Tenders Through E-Prourement portal only on percentage tender basis under the Head of Account 2705 are invited from eligible contractors on behalf of the Administrator, Krishna-CADA, Bheemarayanagudi, by the Executive Engineer, KBJNL, FIC Division No-1, Awarad.. The Details are as under:

1) No of works : FDC works under Yadrami Taluka - 01 Nos, Repairs to Sewage line work and Renovation of Chaiman Chamber at B'gudi in Shahapur taluka-02 Nos. (Total works-03 Nos), 2) Amount Put to Tender : Min: Rs 4.46 lakhs Max: 50.16 lakhs, 3) EMD Amount: Min: Rs. 11200/- Max Rs: 100400/-, 4) Access to e-tender document : From 06-08-2022 to 17-08-2022 up to 5.00PM, 5) Last date of submission of completed e-tendering documents : 17-08-2022 up to 5.00PM, 6) Bid Opening @ office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL, FIC Division No.1 Awarad : Financial bids and technical bids of works costing more than 50 lakhs will be opened on 18.08.2022 at 11.00 AM Financial bids of works costing more than 50 lakhs work will be opened on 23.08.2022 at 11.00 AM, 7) Contact for further Details: Office of the Executive Engineer, FIC Div. No.1, KBJNL, Awarad Tq. Jewargi, Dist:Kalaburgi, 8) Web site Address: www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Note: Bidders applying for the works, visit Website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in for work Indent wise details regarding Tender Eligibility and for other clauses/Rules.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, FIC Div. No.1, KBJNL,
Awarad Tq. Jewargi, Dist:Kalaburagi

DIP/Kalaburagi/457/MC&A/2022-23

CONDUCT OF UHQ RALLY UNDER AGNIPATH SCHEME FOR AGNIVEER GENERAL DUTY / SPORTSMEN AT MADRAS ENGINEER GROUP & CENTRE, BANGALORE ON 29 AUG. 2022 ONWARDS

1. Madras Engineer Group & Centre will be conducting UHQ Rally under Agnipath Scheme at Training Battalion III, MS Nagar Gate MEG & Centre, Bangalore for Wards of Serving Soldiers / Ex-Servicemen / Widow / War Widow & Real Brothers of Serving Soldier / Ex-Servicemen and Open Category for Sportsmen. The details of Schedule of the UHQ Rally programme are as under :-

Sl. No.	Date of Events	Events	Remarks
(a)	25 Aug. 2022	Sports Trial for Outstanding Sportsmen for Boxing, Swimming, Sailing & Hockey only	Open Category :- Sportsmen who qualify in trial will be allowed for recruitment screening.
(b)	29 Aug. 2022	Initial documents checking and 1.6 Kms Run.	All candidates will report at Training Battalion III, MS Nagar Gate, MEG & Centre, Bangalore at 04.30 hrs on 29 Aug 2022 for Recruitment Screening along with requisite documents.
(c)	30 Aug 2022	Physical Fitness Test and Physical Measurement Test.	-----
(d)	31 Aug 2022 to 04 Sep. 2022	Final Documents Checking	-----
(e)	Intimated at Rally Site	Medical Examination	-----
(f)	15 Oct 2022	Issue of Admit Cards	It is resp of med fit candidates to collect the Admit Card for CEE at Security Office, HQ MEG & Centre One Day prior to the Exam
(g)	16 Oct 2022	Common Entrance Exam	-----

2. **Terms and Conditions**
   (a) Candidates will be enrolled under Army Act. 1950 for a service duration of Four (04) Years including the training period.
   (b) Agniveers enrolled under the Scheme, will not be eligible for any kind of Pension or Gratuity.
3. **Age Criteria** :- Agniveer General Duty including sportsmen. 17½ to 23 years (Date for Birth should be between 01 Oct 1999 to 01 Apr. 2005).
4. **Category / Classes / Education Qualification** :-

Sl. No.	Category	Classes / State	Education Qualification
(a)	Agniveer GD	(i) All India All Class (AIAC) Any State of India incl UTs **(Wards of MEG only)** (ii) All Class (Southern Zone) from Andhra Pradesh, Telengana, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Goa & UTs of Pondicherry, Andaman & Nicobar, Lakshadeep. **(Wards of Other Corps / Regtl Centre.)**	Class 10th / Matric with 45% Marks in Aggregate and 33% in each subject. For boards following grading system minimum of D Grade (33% - 40%) in individual subjects or equivalent of grade which contains 33% and overall aggregate in C2 Grade or equivalent corresponding to 45% in aggregate. **Note** :- Candidates with valid Light Motor Vehicle (LMV) Driving License will be given preference for Driver requirement.
(b)	Agniveer GD (Sportsmen)	All India all Classes (Open Category for Boxing, Swimming, Sailing & Hockey only).	

5. Relationship Certificate / Discharge Book issued by Concerned Records Office in Original for Wards of Serving / Ex-Servicemen. For Sports person, Original Sports Certificate with Validity of Two Years from the Date of Issue of Certificate.
6. All candidates are required to carry Masks, Gloves, Hand Sanitizer and produce COVID-19 Free / Asymptomatic Certificate and No Risk Certificate, A Double Dose COVID-19 Vaccination Certificate.

READ MORE IN-DEPTH CONTENT AT THE HINDU'S WEBSITE
www.thehindu.com

Text & Context

A weekday feature on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) which includes explainers, special articles and a quiz. In the latest issue (August 2, Tuesday), the following explainers are available:

- **Explainer |** The dwindling fighter strength of the IAF
  bit.ly/fighterjets32
- **Abstract |** The logic of competition
  bit.ly/compartmarket
- **Explainer |** AlphaFold: A tour de force in science
  bit.ly/alphafoldsci

Online exclusives

- **In Pictures |** 44th FIDE Chess Olympiad in Chennai
  bit.ly/3d1k7gE
- **CWG 2022:** Full List of Indian medal winners in Birmingham
  bit.ly/3zPBGJa
- *You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access the article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.*

Vehicle numbers up from 55 lakh to over 1 crore in 10 years

As civic agencies scramble to decongest major junctions, experts say it is time to disincentivise use of private vehicles

SUCHITH KIDIYOOR
BENGALURU

Data from the Transport Department shows that two-wheeler registrations increased by 3.87% and car registrations by 5.36% in Bengaluru. • FILE PHOTO

The civic agencies' efforts to ease traffic congestion at major junctions in the city have received mixed reactions from motorists. While some say the short-term measures are working, there are others who say only long-term measures will help. But experts feel that authorities should give impetus to popularising public transport to push people to shift from private vehicles.

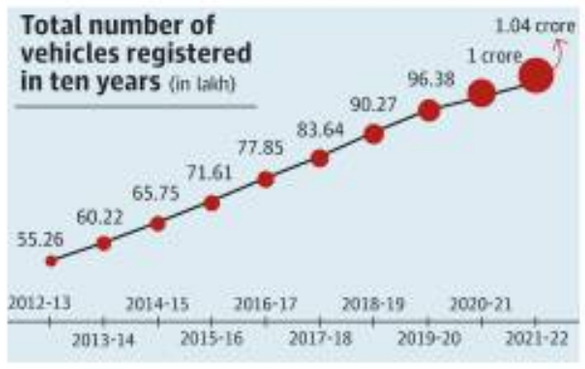
In the last decade, the vehicle numbers increased exponentially in the city and road infrastructure built has not been sufficient to accommodate the growing number. In 2012-13, the total number of vehicles registered was 55.26 lakh, and it has crossed over 1.04 crore now. In 2020-21, a total of 2,55,624 two-wheelers were registered in the city; the number jumped to 2,57,983 in the previous financial year (2021-22). The number of new cars registered jumped from 95,875 to 1,11,774 in the same period. Data from the Transport Department shows that two-wheeler registrations increased by 3.87% and cars registration by 5.36%.

Ashish Verma, convener, IISc Sustainable Transportation Lab, said, "Adding only road infrastructure will never solve the problem of the traffic congestion in the city. The State government should think of attending to core issues. There is a need for policy decisions to reduce the number of vehicles hitting the road and shifting people to public transport. The fundamental approach should be scaling up use of public transport by incentivising it and discouraging people from using private transport that occupies more road space and consumes more energy."

"Cities in many parts of the globe have already taken policy measures that discourage people from opting for private vehicles by imposing more taxes, prioritising public transport and others," he added. Bengaluru has close to 70 lakh two wheelers and 30 lakh cars.

Growing traffic hits city buses

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU



The rapid increase in the number of vehicles in the city has adversely impacted the operational efficiency of the city buses. BMTC officials say the fuel efficiency has dropped from 4.3 km per litre to 3.7 km and the average speed of buses are running during peak hours is around 10kmph. Earlier, a bus used to cover a distance of over 200 km per day. This has reduced to 170 km. The BMTC is also forced to cancel trips due to growing congestion. "After the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of vehicles plying on the road was comparatively lesser. Now, more vehicles are hitting the road, impacting our operations. Recent measures taken by various government bodies helped at many junctions like Central Silk Board, K.R. Puram junction, and others as buses are parked at designated places. The traffic police are helping us in a big way. We have been asking for bus priority lanes on 12 corridors, but it is not an easy task," said Surya Sen A.V., Director (IT), BMTC. Dattatraya T. Devare of Bangalore Environment Trust said that regulating parking space, providing last and first mile connectivity to Namma Metro, completing the suburban rail project within a deadline of 40 months, and extending the bus priority lane to other roads in the city would help in a big way. He has also demanded that the State government implement a comprehensive mobility plan for the benefit of the general public.

Chief Civic Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said augmenting public transport was given the highest priority at the city-level inter-agency meetings to ease traffic. "Without augmenting public transport, the volumes of private vehicles are going to go on skyrocketing, making traffic management a nightmare. Increasing the fleet of BMTC, giving them priority on the road and formulating a public policy that will make public transport cheaper are all part of the agenda. What we are presently doing at the junctions are only immediate short-term measures at those particular bottlenecks, which has already resulted in an improvement of nearly 20% of congestion at these specific junctions," he said.

Realtor held for attacking police

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Seshadripuram police on Thursday night arrested a 33-year-old realtor for allegedly assaulting the patrolling police in an inebriated condition objecting to their movement against the one way .

The victim, Puttamallaiah, ASI with Seshadripuram station, along with head constable Anil Kumar and driver Arun, were heading towards the check point against the one way from the main road on Platform Road near GSB junction when the accused objected to them from driving against the one way.

When Puttamallaiah tried to reason with him, the accused allegedly behaved rudely and rode his bike on him, injuring his leg. Head constable Anil Kumar, with the help of others, chased and pinned him down. The accused, later identified as Mahaveer Hosur from Gadag, was drunk, the police said. Mahaveer has been arrested and his bike seized. He has been remanded to judicial custody on the charge of assaulting policemen on duty.

Two arrested for robbery

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Basavanagudi police on Monday arrested a two habitual offenders who had allegedly robbed a man while he was returning home after visiting his newborn baby.

The accused Jameel Khan and Junaid are habitual offenders from Mysuru and addicted to online gambling. They come to the city whenever they need money and target people driving expensive cars alone and rob them, the police said.

On Sunday, the accused confronted Sanath Shastry, 36, and engineer, from Malleswaram at Tagore underpass while he was returning home after visiting his newborn baby. The accused alleged that he knocked down their bike, injuring one of them. The accused assaulted Sanath and forced him to withdraw ₹40,000 on the pretext of treatment and escaped.

However Mr. Shastry managed to note down their bike number and complained to the police. Based on the complaint, the police tracked down the duo and arrested them. The accused confessed that they had committed similar offences in Bengaluru and Srirangapatana near Mysuru.

Trivikrama Mahadeva: The mortician of orphaned corpses

OLIVIA DEBROY
BLESSY BABU
BENGALURU

Praveen Kumar, the son of Trivikrama Mahadeva, with his van. • OLIVIA DEBROY

Ever heard of a man who buried unclaimed bodies? After finding out about his own mother's death from another person who used to bury unidentified bodies, Trivikrama Mahadeva spent his entire life burying bodies of victims of suicides and accidents. The mortician of unidentified bodies in Bengaluru died on July 14 after fighting lung cancer for a long time.

Born on September 29, 1962, in a village near Nanjangud in Mysuru district, Mahadeva came to Bengaluru in 1971, seeking treatment for his ailing mother. As treatments failed, his mother passed away, but Mahadeva did not find out about it until Krishnappa, who was burying unclaimed bodies back then, told him about it a week later. Thus, in 1972, Mahadeva started his selfless service that lasted for a span of over fifty years.

While all the unidentified bodies used to be sent to the Victoria Government Hospital, after forensic investigation and certification from the police, they would then be handed over to Mahadeva for their last rites. "In the 1990s, one burial would cost around ₹100 where half of the amount would be spent at the burial ground and another small amount would be lost in buying food for his horse, on which he travelled. The rest ₹20 was his income and due to this, Mahadeva was constantly under financial issues which led to his inability to give a better life to his family," his son Praveen recalls.

Trivikrama Mahadeva used to stand in the place of the deceased's relatives, take the bodies of orphans who died owing to various reasons like accidents and suicides after the post-mortem examination and perform the last rites. The police and doctors called Mahadeva the 'Trivikrama of orphaned corpses'. Earlier, dead bodies were transported on horse carts and then they were taken to the graveyard in an autorickshaw. After that Mahadev was given a Maruti Omni for the ease of transportation by IAS officer Madan Gopal.

He was also chosen to transport the body of Shivarasan, one of the persons who planned the assassination of former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. Shivarasan died by suicide in a house in Konanakunte on the outskirts of the city in 1991. The police chose Mahadeva to bury Shivarasan's body.

Awards and recognition

Recognising his work, Mahadeva was awarded the Chief Minister's Gold Medal in 1999, Kempegowda Award in 2004 and Godfrey Phillips Shaurya Award in 2006 for Social Act of Courage. In 2008, then Chief Minister B. S. Yediyurappa conferred the Namma Bengaluru Award upon him. In 2014, former president Abdul Kalam also honoured him with an island pillar and ₹2 lakhs cash award from the Godfrey Limited Trust, on his 50th birthday.

Apart from his social work, Mahadeva also had a brief stint in the movies. While he acted in the movie *Kaiwara Thathaiya*, he also acted in the film *Samaskaravantha*, based on his life.

Continuing his work

He has two sons Praveen and Kiran Kumar and two daughters Sonu and Arpita with his wife Pushpa. Currently, Mahadeva's sons are continuing the cremation of the orphaned bodies. Speaking about this, Praveen said, "Father was not feeling well for a month. At the hospital, he was more worried about the orphaned corpses. Anna (brother) and I are doing the cremation of the orphaned bodies together. If we continue our father's work, his soul will find peace." The sons are running a trust in Trivikrama Mahadeva's name.

Implement in letter and spirit law restricting protests, rallies in Bengaluru: High Court

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

FROM THE COURT

The High Court of Karnataka on Monday directed the State government to implement in letter and spirit the Licensing and Regulation of Protests, Demonstrations and Protest Marches (Bengaluru City) Order, 2021, which prohibits holding of protests, dharnas, rallies, etc., without the organisers obtaining a licence from the police.

A Division Bench comprising acting Chief Justice Alok Aradhe and Justice S. Vishwajith Shetty passed the order while disposing of a PIL petition, which was initiated suo motu by the court in March 2021.

The Bench also directed the government to take action as per the law against the violators of the Licensing Order 2021. On Monday, the government said that the Licensing Order 2021 has been given effect and 27 criminal cases had been registered against organisations and individuals violating these norms.

Public interest

The petition was initiated based on a letter written to the Chief Justice by Justice Aravind Kumar, who was then a judge of the High Court of Karnataka and is presently serving as the Chief Justice of High Court of Gujarat, on the hardship faced by the general public due to huge traffic jams caused by frequent protests, demonstrations and rallies on public roads in the heart of Bengaluru.

Meanwhile, the court on March 3, 2022, had directed the government and the city police to ensure that no protests, processions, etc., are held in the entire city of Bengaluru except at Freedom Park, and such events should be held in an organised manner and ensure traffic in the city does not get adversely affected especially during rush hours. Following these directions, the Government issued the Licensing Order, which states, "The licensing authority shall approve the number of persons for holding protest at Freedom Park, depending on type of programme, duration and available capacity at the venue." Though the protest venue is Freedom Park, the police commissioner may designate any other suitable place in the city."

Cubs and bulbuls camp

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Kendriya Vidyalaya DRDO, C.V. Raman Nagar, is hosting the regional-level cubs and bulbuls camp - Chathur Charan and Heerakh Pankh 2022 from August 2 to 4. Around 200 cubs and bulbuls from 19 Kendriya Vidyalayas of the Bengaluru region, along with their escort teachers, will be taking part in the camp.

Sirimala Sambanna, Deputy Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sanghtan, Regional Office, Bengaluru, will inaugurate the event on August 2. P.C. Raju, Assistant Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sanghtan, Regional Office, Bengaluru, will be the guest of honour at the inaugural function.

The three-day camp is being conducted so that the cubs and bulbuls can learn essential camping skills, including basic first aid, gardening, yoga, etc. They also have a pre-prescribed syllabus for testing learning. At the end, the participants who have successfully completed the activities will be presented with the Heerakh Pankh badge along with a certificate, a release stated.

THiS institutions record 100% pass in CBSE board exams

SUDHINDR A.B.
BENGALURU

The schools that are part of The Hindu in School (THiS) programme recorded 100% pass in Term-2 Class X and XII CBSE board examinations declared recently.

National Public School, HSR Layout, achieved excellent results. In Class XII, Advik Sinha, Akshay Ravikumar, Kavya Bhat, Rohan Aanegola, Sanchit Garg all got 99% in science. Samarth Shrimal got 98.8% in commerce, and Rysha Sultana 98.6% in humanities. The school boasted 45 centum scores.

Sri Vani Education Centre, Machohalli, achieved 100% pass with 84 of 109 students securing distinctions. Moksha P., (99.20%) was the topper.

Presidency School, Kasturinagar, achieved 100% pass in Class XII. In all, 26 of 67 students scored 90% and above marks. Vivek Rajesh Josh (98%) was the topper.

Kautilya Vidyalaya, Mysuru, achieved 100% pass in Class X. In all, 38 of 97 students secured distinctions. Raaj Asrieeth M.R., (99.20%) was the topper.

National Public School, Koramangala, achieved 100% pass in both Class X and XII. In Class X, 80 of 83 students secured distinctions. Adrija Thakur (99.80%) was the topper. In Class XII, 61 of 65 students secured distinctions. Nikita Kiran (99.60%) was the topper.

Delhi Public School Bangalore North, Yelahanka, achieved 100% pass in both Class X and XII. In Class X, 477 of 594 students secured distinctions. Sayandeep Basu (99.2%) was the topper. In Class XII, 328 of 372 students secured distinctions. Samhita Rayana and Uday Padmakumar Nayar both with 99% in science, Aditya Raj Singhal with 98.2% in commerce and Tanisha Mitra with 98.6% in humanities were the toppers.

Delhi Public School Bangalore East, Sarjapur Road, too achieved 100% pass in both Class X and XII. In Class X, 518 of 614 students secured distinctions. Venya Velmurugan (99.2%) was the topper. In Class XII, 382 of 489 students secured distinctions. Edward Nathen Mathew (99%) in science and Cyril Jonathan Clement (99%) in humanities were toppers.

FROM PAGE ONE

CET-2022 document verification postponed

Veerabhadrappa P.M., a parent from Holalkere, Chitradurga district, said in a press conference on Monday, "We will wait for two to three days for the government's decision to resolve the problem. If the government fails to solve this problem, we will launch an indefinite fast at Freedom Park.

Shiva, a parent from Bengaluru, said, "There were no instructions from the KEA in the notification that only CET marks will be considered for repeaters. If that was the case, we also would have written II PU exams again this year."

Saanchi, a student from Mangaluru, who was also protesting, said, "Last year, I was planning to join the defence academy and took took the NDA and NA examination. So I cancelled my CET-2021 ranking. But I failed to get a seat in the defence academy. This year, I successfully took the CET. Last year, I got the 17,611 rank with 79 marks in engineering stream, but this year I got 86,530 rank with 96 marks. For this rank, I will not get any desired engineering course and college. The government should resolve our problem."

Four SBI ATM kiosks looted in Bengaluru

The Cubbon Park police registered a case of cheating and efforts are on to track down the accused.

It may be recalled that then Police Commissioner Raghavendra Auradkar, had cracked the whip on banks and ATMs and made it mandatory for them to deploy round the clock security following the ATM attack on Jyothi Uday, 44, who was attacked with a machete by a robber at an ATM at Corporation Circle in November 2013. The accused, Madhukar Reddy, was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client Smt.Navaneetha K.V D/o Late Venkatanarappa. W/o Col.Divakar Naidu S.K. No.442, 6th Cross, 7th Block West, Jayanagara, Bengaluru-560082, hereby informed the public that her father late Venkatanarappa, was the absolute owner of property bearing No.442, MIG in 6th. Cross, 7th. Block West, Jayanagar, Bengaluru 560 082. The original Title deed, allotment letter, Possession Certificate, Katha Certificate and Katha Extract, were lost during the repairing of the building. Hence, the public are hereby informed that if any body found or traced the above said documents kindly return the same to the undersigned.

Smt.Navaneetha K.V
W/o Col.Divakar Naidu S.K.
No.442, 6th Cross, 7th Block West,
Jayanagar, Bengaluru- 5600082.
Cell No.9845026026 OR

K.T.DAKAPPA and Associates
Advocate,
No.641 SM Plaza 1st Floor,
Basavanagudi, Bengaluru- 560 004

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Auction No. MYS-PnU-1, MYS-VPH-1-4, PARKING-SMET-22

The undersigned, on behalf of President of India, invites Bidders to participate in E-Auctions for contracts of Pay and Use toilets, parcels & parking contract scheduled on **11-08-2022, 12-08-2022 & 16-08-2022 respectively.**

SL	E-Auction Catalogue No.	Category / Sub-Category	Date & Time of E-Auctioning
1	MYS-PnU-1	Pay N Use / Pay and Use Toilets	11-08-2022 & 11:00 Hours
2	MYS-VPH-1-4	Parcel / VPH	12-08-2022 & 11:00 Hours
3	PARKING-SMET-22	Parking / Parking - Mixed	16-08-2022 & 12:00 Hours

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

PUB/276/MAS/PRR/SWR/2022-23 **Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Mysuru**

S.W.Railways sw_rly SWRRLY southwesternrailway SWRRLY

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ

Notice No. 2022-July-03 **Dated: 27.07.2022**
AGRA DIVISION

E-Tendering Tender Notice

Divisional Railway Manager (Engineering), North Central Railway Agra for and on behalf of the President of India invites "Open Tender" through on Line only (**E-Tendering**) for the following works. The details of the tender are as under:

S N	Tender No.	Description of work	Approx Cost Rs.
1	2022-July-03-01	Supply, stacking and mechanized loading into hoppers/box of 100000 Cum machine crushed stone ballast as per Railway specification /RS-GE-1 June-2016 or latest at new Kotra (KTRA) Depot	110193000.00

For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website "**www.ireps.gov.in**" Tenders can only be submitted through web portal "**www.ireps.gov.in**" up to **15.00 hrs.** on **22.08.2022.** 978/22(K)

northcentralrailway North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in CPRONCR

कॉफी बोर्ड COFFEE BOARD
(Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India)
No. 1, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru - 560 001.

NOTICE INVITING ONLINE TENDER

No.Adm/Engg/1st floor rooms [rear]/ CBHO / 2022-23/94
Dated: 01.08.2022

Percentage rate Online tenders are invited in two bid systems by the Coffee Board for the work of "Repair and Renovation to 1st floor rooms, on [Raj Bhawan] side, at Coffee Board Head Office, No.1, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru- 560001" at an Estimated cost of **Rs.10,32,314/-**. For further details, visit **https://indiacoffee.enivida.com** or **www.indiacoffee.org** or **https://epublish/app** The last date for submission of online tenders is **11.08.2022** by **3:30** PM. The date for opening of Technical bids is **11.08.2022** at **4.30 PM.**

Joint Director
(Extn & Admin i/c)

Justice delayed: A grilled painted wall in Jagdalpur, Bastar, Chhattisgarh. • GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Bastar's wheels of justice grind exceedingly slow

Hearings should not be suspended during COVID times as jail conditions and quick trials do matter in conflict regions

BELA BHATIA

On July 31, Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged the judiciary to speed up release of undertrials who are languishing in jails, awaiting legal aid. In this article dated March 2, 2022, Bela Bhatia explains how speedy trials are essential in conflict-torn regions such as Bastar. Edited excerpts:

The third wave of COVID-19 is on its way out, but it has left in its wake many anxieties in conflict-torn Bastar in the State of Chhattisgarh. COVID times may put a halt to many activities but it does not halt the militarisation that has been growing and spreading to new areas of Bastar division's seven districts with corresponding actions that satisfy the paramilitary's raison d'être. The Maoists for their part like to be heard through improvised explosive device (IED) blasts or similar actions with predictable consequences. In the absence of any appeal for a ceasefire from either side – from the State to the Maoists or vice-versa – at least for the duration of this crisis, arrests of local Adivasis, many in fabricated cases, continue as before after every fresh incident.

The lives of those arrested and their families, for a good number of years after incarceration, hinge upon the efficiency of the judicial system and good governance of jails. Jails and courts may not matter much for most people, but in conflict regions such as Bastar where many families have some members in jail at any point of time, jail conditions and speedy trials do matter. Throughout the COVID-19 crisis, intermittent suspensions of court work and jail visits have created enormous hardships for prisoners and their families.

THE GIST

- The lives of those arrested and their families, for a good number of years after incarceration, hinge upon the efficiency of the judicial system. Jails and courts may not matter much for most people, but in conflict regions such as Bastar where many families have some members in jail at any point of time, jail conditions and speedy trials do matter.
- In Bastar, a high proportion of 'Naxalite' cases are being tried in the National Investigation Agency (NIA) courts. During the first wave of COVID-19 (in 2020), work in all courts, including the NIA court in Jagdalpur, came to a standstill and hearings were suspended for months.
- Undertrial prisoners and their families have coped with COVID-19 and now have hope that the loss of time would be made up and their cases closed in the months ahead.

Jails out of reach

On January 7, relatives of undertrials Hidme Markam and Bujji Semla, and unjustly convicted Kishor Kawasi, besides many others, were turned away by the jail guards. The guards also refused to take their parcels – small plastic bags with necessities such as toothpaste and brush, innerwear, sweaters, and sometimes the odd "luxury" item such as glass bangles or biscuits.

The Jagdalpur Central Jail is the largest prison in the Bastar division. Besides the central jail, there are two district jails in Dantewada and Kanker districts and three sub-jails in Bijapur, Sukma and Narayanpur districts. The total prison population is around 3,500, most of them Adivasis. Only a small fraction are convicts; the rest are undertrials.

In normal times, in all these prisons, relatives or lawyers of prisoners can visit the prisoners only in the first half of the day. Those who come from faraway– as most do – have to start very early in the morning from their homes or reach Jagdalpur the previous day. It is a big blow for family members to return without being granted a meeting after having incurred the necessary time, travel and other expenses. In the first wave of COVID-19, at least the parcels could be sent through lawyers. But this time, even that was disallowed. Only a small number of prisoners who had some money deposited in their names could make weekly calls. Lawyers, who are normally able to bridge the two (prisoners and family), can do so only if lawyer-client visits are not discontinued too, as they were during the first lockdown in 2020.

The NIA courts

In Bastar, a high proportion of 'Naxalite' cases are being tried in the National Investigation Agency (NIA) courts. Until early 2021, there was only one NIA court for Bastar division. It was set up after a State government notification on May 19, 2015 authorised the First Additional Sessions Judge, Bastar (at Jagdalpur) as the Special Court for trial of Scheduled Offences under the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008. On January 15, 2021, by another government notification, the number of NIA special courts was increased by giving additional charge to two courts in Dantewada District and Sessions Court and one court each in Kondagaon and Kanker District and Sessions Courts.

During the first wave of COVID-19 (in 2020), work in all courts, including the NIA court in Jagdalpur, came to a standstill and hearings were suspended for months. Just as the courts were reopening in early 2021, the decision to decentralise NIA courts was made. The decentralisation process required hundreds of files to be transferred to the different courts in the respective districts. Old session trial numbers were renumbered in the new courts. It is only after these cumbersome changes were done that the process of sending summons to the witnesses began. Despite these delays and difficulties, court hearings (in observance of strict precautionary protocols) were slowly but surely resuming. On January 11, 2022, however, hearings were suspended once again, except for fresh or urgent matters (as in previous lockdowns). Work in the courts resumed on February 16, but after every speed breaker it takes time to bounce back; and so it is still in first gear. Overcrowding in prisons, already a serious problem in Bastar prisons, worsens every time court hearings are suspended. In Jagdalpur central jail, for example, the number of prisoners rose from 2,021 (on January 28) to 2,057 (on February 13).

Hopes for a speedy trial

Undertrial prisoners and their families have coped with COVID-19 and now have hope that the loss of time would be made up and their cases closed in the months ahead, especially those which are at the last stages of trial.

Ordinarily, each case is heard only once a month. If nothing happens in the hearing (for example, if the witnesses do not turn up) there is no progress. In Bastar, typically, in any single NIA case many persons are accused and arrested. These are cases where the accused are charged under Acts such as the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), the Arms Act and the Explosive Substances Act (all scheduled under the NIA Act) and also other sections of the Indian Penal Code, or IPC (some of which are also included in the NIA schedule), mostly based on fabrications. After a Maoist attack or incident, a large number of people from the surrounding areas, male and female, get arrested and charged in this manner. In such cases, many witnesses – aside from the complainant and investigating officer – are part of the police and security forces. Summons even to civilians are sent to the respective thana. The speed of the trial, therefore, depends on the extent to which the police cooperate with the judicial process. Even in normal years, summons have to be sent many times before witnesses appear in court for examination and cross-examination, which results in unnecessary delay.

Needless to say, life gets held up when cases do not move. This feeling of being stuck in a stagnant pool, the murky workings of which are not known to them, can also take a toll on the mental health of prisoners and their family. For a human-rights lawyer, it becomes hard to keep hope alive. It becomes difficult to explain the delays during the trial or the denial of bail in "Naxali cases". Bail, a possible relief, is rarely granted in these cases and almost never to those charged under the UAPA. This is so common that it has become unwritten law. Often, helpless families of undertrials fall prey to false promises made by greedy lawyers and end up parting with a large sum of money. Bail applications are a sure bait for these unscrupulous lawyers. Frustrated family members may even dump an honest lawyer for a far more expensive lawyer in the hope of faster results.

Honest lawyers and judges in Bastar know that the only hope for the prisoners (especially of the ongoing "war") is a speedy trial. To this goal, we must remain committed even during COVID times.

Kosi's Deva

Deva is a common name in Bastar. One of the 'Devas' saved on my phone is Kosi's Deva. Kosi is from a Dantewada village and has been in jail since 2018. She was picked up with a dozen others after an IED blast by the Maoists. She is one of the hundreds (if not thousands) who are charged under the UAPA in Bastar. Kosi was engaged to be married when she was arrested. Her fiancé, Deva, is a frequent caller from a border village in Telangana, where his family migrated a few years ago to escape the violence. He calls about twice a month and has been doing so season after season. One can only hope that the wait will end soon, allowing Kosi and Deva to turn the page and start a new chapter of their lives together.

Bela Bhatia is a human-rights lawyer working in the district courts of Bastar, Chhattisgarh

THE DAILY QUIZ

Rishi Sunak is one of two Conservative Party contenders to the post of British Prime Minister (and leader of the party). Here's a quiz on Indian-origin/descent leaders in other countries.

1 A democratic socialist leader, this politician is among the most popular leaders of his country. Elected Prime Minister in 1961, his government was subject to a destabilisation campaign by the U.S. government and soon lost power. But he came back as President of his country in 1992. Name him and the country.

2 Originally of Indian descent, he was born in this country where he had a long tenure as a civil servant before becoming the President of the country in 1999, a post that he served the longest in its history, till 2011. Name him and the country.

3 The grandson of an indentured labourer from Rohtak, Haryana, who came to this country to work in its sugarcane plantations, this person went on to become the first Indian origin head of state in the country. Barely one year into his term, he along with other cabinet members were taken hostage in a coup, and were in captivity for nearly two months. Name him and the country.

4 Born to an Indian origin doctor who had moved to the U.K. in the 1960s, this trained general practitioner of medicine and later politician went on to become the first openly gay Minister and later head of government in his country. He was named among the 100 most influential people of 2018 by *Time* magazine. Name him and the country.

5 The first woman of Indian origin to be a Prime Minister outside South Asia, she was also the first female Commonwealth Chairperson-in-office. She received the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman in the year 2012 for public services. Name her and the country where she became Prime Minister.

Compiled by: Srinivasan Ramani

Name this head of government and the country he belongs to. His father was born in Mozambique to a Goan family. • WIKIPEDIA COMMONS

Please send in your answers to the **dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in**

Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. These fictional islands are inhabited by tiny people who are about one-twelfth the height of ordinary human beings. **Ans: Lilliput and Blefuscu**

2. This fantasy land is used as a metaphor for eternal childhood and escapism. **Ans: Neverland**

3. The Latin name of Nami was adopted as the title of this fantasy land. **Ans: Narnia**

4. The Dodo, The Duchess, The Cheshire Cat and The Hatter are inhabitants of this fantasy world. **Ans: Wonderland**

5. This area which lies in the Northwest Highlands of Scotland inspired this fictional land. **Ans: Westeros**

6. "Draco dormiens nunquam titillandus" is the motto of this fictional school. **Ans: Hogwarts**

7. Name this fictional setting populated by humans, elves, dwarves, Ents, and hobbits. **Ans: Middle Earth**

Visual: These characters are from this popular book. **Ans: Wizard of Oz**

Early Birds: Anvesha Dhar| Adya Upasana Routray| Sumesh. S. Panjal

ABSTRACT

The logic of competition

Greater competition is beneficial for consumers even in a market for arts

PRASHANTH PERUMAL

"Rent seeking and the decline of the Florentine school," Ennio E. Piano and Tanner Hardy, April 2022, Public Choice, 192, 59-78 (2022).
https://doi.org/10.1007/s11127-022-00971-9

For a long time, economists have written and talked about the benefits that accrue to consumers as a result of free competition among businesses. When any business can easily enter an industry and compete against others to attract the patronage of consumers, it leads to the easier availability of everyday goods and services.

The market for arts

Economists in the past have also noted that competition benefits consumers not just in the market for mundane goods and services but also in the market for arts. William J. Baumol and Hilda Baumol, for instance, have explored how a competitive arts market in 18th century Habsburg empire, which resulted from competition among rival states within the empire to attract talent, helped in the flourishing of the music industry in Vienna during the time of Wolfgang Mozart. While greater competition can lead to a flourishing market that benefits consumers, the lack of competition can have the opposite effect.

"Rent seeking and the decline of the Florentine school" by Ennio E. Piano and Tanner Hardy published in the *Public Choice* journal looks into how absence of competition can affect the quality of products in the arts market. The authors of the paper study the fall of the Florentine school of painting in Italy during the late Renaissance period to support their argument that in the absence of competition the quality of artistic output drops as artists then have no monetary incentive to impress the buyers of art.

Florence flourished as a hub for the arts during the medieval and the Renaissance period. Even though the region hosted just 1% of Italy's population, it served as the leading centre for the arts such as painting works. This, however, changed during the late Renaissance period with the region witnessing a drop in artistic talent and output while other regions of Italy did not witness any similar fall from grace. While a significant share of prominent artists lived in Florence from the thirteenth to the fifteenth century, by the middle of the sixteenth century almost no prominent artist lived in Florence.

Cartelisation of the arts

Why did Florence's art market witness such a severe decline while other regions of Italy remained unaffected by any such fall? Piano and Hardy argue that at some point artists in Florence got together to form a cartel in the form of a guild that restricted the entry of new artists into the market. And as standard economic theory would predict, this stopped the entry of new artists who could disrupt the market with better art work and gave existing artists very little incentive to compete hard and produce art that could satisfy art enthusiasts. The end result was a drop in the influence and the quality of art produced in Florence. This, the authors state, shows that the influence of competition, or the absence of it, is the same in the art market as it is in the market for other goods and services we use every day.

Piano and Hardy attribute the formation of the Florentine artists' cartel to the rise of the Medici family as the ruling dynasty of Florence and as the major patron of the arts in the region. This, they argue, turned the art market in Florence into a kind of monopsony with just a single large buyer who could easily dictate the price and other terms at which artists could sell their works. Hence, the authors believe, the artists of Florence trying to protect their personal economic interest got together and formed a cartel to win back some of the bargaining power that they lost to the Medici family. It is, however, possible that such cartelisation was not very beneficial to the cause of the Florentine artists. After all, even as part of a cartel that could restrict supply of art, the Florentine guild artists would have had to sell their art at prices and terms dictated by the only buyer, the Medici family.

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Timings
BENGALURU

TUESDAY, AUG. 02
RISE 06:05 SET 18:46
RISE 09:40 SET 22:04

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 03
RISE 06:06 SET 18:46
RISE 10:28 SET 22:42

THURSDAY, AUG. 04
RISE 06:06 SET 18:46
RISE 11:19 SET 23:22

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	24
Mysuru	32	21
Bengaluru	28	21

Bengaluru Today
30°C A slight warm and humid weather to prevail. Night will be pleasant. Few spells of moderate rain and thundershower will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
28°C The weather will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of moderate rain and thundershower is likely.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2019
All rights reserved.

THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Directors, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

Govt. issues guidelines for monkeypox preparedness

The steps include reporting cases, setting up designated institutional isolation facilities at district levels and mandatory contact tracing of suspects

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The Health Department has issued guidelines to all the district administrations, including Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), to ramp up surveillance and enhance preparedness for monkeypox cases.

The steps include reporting of cases, setting up of designated institutional isolation facilities at district levels (for both confirmed and suspected cases) and mandatory contact tracing of suspects.

The circular says that while it is mandatory to report every case detected, it will be followed by a detailed investigation by the Rapid Response Team (RRT) and sample collection and reporting on Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) portal.

- Traced contacts will be monitored everyday for 21 days to look for signs and symptoms and upon finding any, will be tested for the disease.

Additionally, traced contacts will be monitored every day for 21 days to look for signs and symptoms and upon finding any, will be tested for the disease. The testing of all samples will be carried out at BMCRI in Bengaluru. Until the test results are available, the suspected patient will remain at the designated isolation facility with regular monitoring.

The guidelines come in the backdrop of the recent developments, including a suspected case of the disease in the city. An Ethiopian citizen who had developed monkeypox-like symptoms had undergone testing and the results which came on Sunday, revealed that he had only developed chickenpox.

Teams at points of entry
Following the directives from the Health Department, BBMP will deploy health screening teams at railway stations, bus stands and the airport. It has further said that those with confirmed cases of monkeypox should be isolated for 21 days or until all the scabs fall off and lesions resolve.

Zonal health officers have also been instructed to make necessary arrangements for testing and transportation of samples and the availability of human resources for effective surveillance. While reorienting the staff working at PHCs and hospitals about signs and symptoms of monkeypox, the officers will also spread awareness among the public about preventive steps to be taken.

CM to chair crucial meeting today

A 22-year old, who died in Kerala last week, tested positive for monkeypox on Monday

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Basavaraj Bommai

Following the positive test result of the suspected monkeypox patient who died in Kerala, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Monday said that he has called a "crucial meeting" to review the monkeypox situation in the State, on Tuesday.

Health and Family Welfare Minister K. Sudhakar, Health Department officials and experts will attend the meeting which would take measures to control the disease. It would also involve measures regarding the required treatment and arrangement for medicines, he said.

A 22-year old man, who died in Kerala last week, tested positive for monkeypox on Monday. Mr. Bommai said that the State government would take stock of the situation and to issue certain guidelines for preventing the spread of monkeypox. He said, "We have taken monkey pox seriously. Tomorrow, I have called an important meeting with the Health Minister and Health Department officials to discuss how to check travelers, setting up labs and other measures that need to be taken".

Mr. Sudhakar on Sunday had said that the episode of Ethiopian national, who was suspected to have monkeypox in Bengaluru had turned out to be a case of chickenpox. He had added that all travelers from affected countries are being screened on arrival into the State.

The Karnataka government had recently decided to speed up surveillance activities and keep a strong vigil in the State. It has instructed officials in all the districts to ensure effective preparedness and take required action as per the Centre's guidelines and Technical Advisory Committee recommendations regarding monkeypox.

On rains
The Chief Minister said he would also chair a meeting to discuss the damage to crops caused by the recent incessant rains, which have caused extensive damage to crops and infrastructure in different parts of the State.

Man arrested

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Sadashivanagar police on Monday arrested a laundry man of former Home Minister M.B. Patil for allegedly stealing cash and valuables from the latter's home when the family was out.

The accused, Jayanth Das from Odisha, was working at the house for five years. The police recovered valuables worth ₹1.3 lakh, including ₹70,000 in cash, a wristwatch worth ₹50,000 and a phone worth ₹10,000. He was tracked down to his native place and arrested.

Labourer killed

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Cottonpet police are on the lookout for a man who allegedly bludgeoned his neighbour to death over a suspected affair with his wife in Mini Bakshi Garden on Sunday.

The deceased, Srinivasa, 32, a labourer, was staying near the accused Santosh's house. Srinivasa was unmarried and used to chat with Santosh's wife often. Santosh had warned him against doing so many times. On Sunday, he saw them talking and hit him with a log and escaped. Srinivasa sustained severe head injuries and was taken to a clinic and after first aid, was brought to the house of Tulasi, a neighbour.

The murder came to light on Monday morning when Tulasi found him dead.

Demand up for commerce, management students as placements see uptick

Universities record nearly 90% placements in non-engineering streams in 2022

JAHNAVI T.R.
BENGALURU

While higher salary packages were usually secured mainly by engineering students up until a few years ago, now, students of other combinations are also bagging packages above ₹20 lakh per year. Private universities in the city have recorded 80-90% placements this year with the average Cost to Company (CTC) lying somewhere around ₹5-5.5 lakh per annum. Those graduating from commerce and management subjects seem to be the favourites for hiring companies, while those who study theoretical science and arts subjects are experiencing a bit of a struggle to get jobs.

Unlike IT companies where there is not much change in the salary packages, under the other streams, now, there is at least a 20-30% hike as even start-ups have begun hiring from college campuses. Compared to last year, most colleges have seen a 20-25% increase in the number of offers they have received. Computer applications, Business Administration, Psychology, Mass Communication, Visual Communication, Digital Marketing, Data Science, Cyber Security, AI & ML are some of the courses/subjects which were in great demand this year during hiring season.

> **While most courses are getting good placements, we are somehow struggling with natural sciences like zoology, botany and also electronics and mathematics. These are not market-oriented and the curriculum does not prepare students to complement the industry needs. There is a gap between academia and industry which should be corrected.**
> KIRAN JEEVAN
> Placement Officer, St. Joseph's University

In demand
- Computer Applications
- Business Administration
- Psychology
- Mass Communication
- Visual Communication
- Digital Marketing
- Data Science
- Cyber Security
- AI & ML

"We offer six months of training and six months of placement and this year, we saw a 50-70% hike in CTCs offered by startups and new tech companies. For arts courses, the number of offers and salary is lower and stagnant, but commerce and management (100% placement), social work and human resource students were hired by a variety of companies," said G. Lakshminarayana, Director and Professor, CMR University. The highest package secured at the university was ₹18.25 lakh while the average CTC was ₹5.5 lakh.

Industrial skills
Even as placements improve, there are worries about the industrial readiness of students passing out of universities. The placement directors seem to think that those who study theoretical subjects are not being taught industrial skills, which makes the hiring companies hesitant to employ such students.

"While most courses are getting good placements, we are somehow struggling with natural sciences like zoology, botany and also electronics and mathematics. These are not market-oriented and the curriculum does not prepare students to complement the industry needs. There is a gap between academia and industry which should be corrected. Colleges need to prepare students for industries by imparting skills. Otherwise, it becomes a nightmare for students to find jobs and that affects placement percentages too," said Kiran Jeevan, Placement Officer, St. Joseph's University.

The university, however, secured 85% placement this year with a salary range of ₹4.5 lakh to 23 lakh. The highest packages of ₹23 lakh and ₹21 lakh were bagged by a student of BBA and BCA respectively.

Freshers sought
While there was some hesitancy amongst companies to hire freshers, this year the trend has changed a little bit. "There has been an increased demand for skilled manpower. The demand for entry or fresher-level candidates has increased as compared to previous years," said Rohan Prem Sagar, Trustee and Board of Governors, Dayananda Sagar University. Here too, 90% placements were recorded this time with an average salary package of ₹4-5 lakh per annum for non-engineering streams. The highest package was ₹15 lakh.

Universities reported that during the two years of pandemic, there was a slight dip in placements of around 5%. The average CTC had also reduced by ₹50,000 to 1 lakh. "The lowest offer we saw during that time was of ₹2.5 lakh per annum," a placement officer said.

Joint effort

Youngsters display an artistically designed pot, during the launch of Electoral Reforms, organised by Election Commission of India and the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, at Vikas Soudha, in Bengaluru on Monday. • K. MURALI KUMAR

Power shutdown today

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

There will be disruption in power supply on Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the areas serviced from 66/11 KV Devarabeesanahalli MUSS in view of carrying out quarterly maintenance work.

According to a press release from BESCOM, the areas that will be affected are Bellandur, Devarabeesanahalli, Kariyamanapalya and surrounding areas.

HCL to hire 2K students who have completed Class XII in Karnataka

It is conducting walk-in training interviews across Bengaluru, Shivamogga, Hubballi and Mysuru

MINI TEJASWI
BENGALURU

Students who have scored a minimum of 60% with Mathematics or Business Mathematics in their curriculum are eligible to be part of HCL's TechBee career programme. • FILE PHOTO

HCL Technologies, an IT services and digital transformation solutions provider, is planning to hire over 2,000 fresh talent from Karnataka, under its 'catch them young' drive.

As part of its early career programme, TechBee, the firm is currently conducting walk-in training interviews across four cities – Bengaluru, Shivamogga, Hubballi and Mysuru – to hire students who have completed Class 12. These students who have scored a minimum of 60% with Mathematics or Business Mathematics in their curriculum would be eligible to be part of this programme, the company said.

Bespoke training and mentoring
To offer bespoke training and mentoring initiatives, HCL has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Karnataka Skill Development Corporation (KSDC) to train tech-savvy, enthusiastic individuals seeking to accelerate their careers in IT.

Subbaraman B., Vice President, HCL Technologies, said, "Under TechBee, we aim to hire the best talent, train them and enable them to achieve financial independence at the start of their career. So far, over 8,000 students have been selected for the TechBee programme across the country and are in various stages of their career journey with HCL.'

"We, at HCL, observed a lot of interest and potential in students in Karnataka as well. That is why we chose to do these walk-in drives in the state," he told *The Hindu*.

Paid internship
After the completion of a 12-month intensive tech training, students will start receiving an annual salary between ₹1.7 lakh to ₹2.2 lakh. During the internship, students will be paid a stipend of ₹10,000 and will also get the opportunity to do an internship on HCL projects. While working at HCL, students may also be able to enrol themselves in an undergraduate degree programme offered by reputed partner institutions like BITS Pilani, SASTRA University and Amity University.

TechBee, HCL's new people strategy, was piloted in 2017 with a view to identify talent among pre-degree students across the country and create financial independence for them and their families. According to HCL, Class 12 students can visit www.hcltechbee.com for details.

Withered pomegranate crop leaves farmers distraught

They have reported losing over 50% of the fruit in the previous harvest

JAHNAVI T.R.
BENGALURU

It has been three years since pomegranate farmers in Karnataka have had a good crop year. Now, with incessant rains, pomegranates are being affected by blight and wilt diseases which leave the fruit with black spots and cracked surfaces, thereby reducing their quality. While some farmers in North Karnataka have crop insurance, new farmers in regions around Bengaluru have no protection.

Shift from grapes
In the districts of Kolar, Chickballapur and Bengaluru Rural, farmers removed their usual crops of grapes and other vegetables and planted pomegranates a few years ago in the hope of reaping greater profits. While this change did bear fruit for the first two to three years, 60% to 70% of these farmers have now removed these trees and gone back to other horticulture crops. The farmers reported losing over 50% of the fruits in the previous harvest.

Disease is also rampant in the northern belt, in districts like Belagavi and Bagalkot which are the leading producers of pomegranate in the State. • FILE PHOTO

"Farmers here got excited about pomegranate bringing in good money. Now, it seems like grape was working out far better (for them). This year, flowering is not up to mark and as it has started to rain, more flowers will fall out and fruit production will be just 20-30%. Spotted fruits will have no value in the market. Along with this, the labour costs have also increased from ₹100-250 to ₹500-600 per day. How do we bear these costs when we get nothing from selling our crop?" asks Ashwath Reddy, a farmer from Sidlaghatta taluk in Chickballapur.

Reduced cultivation area
Disease is also rampant in the northern belt, in districts like Belagavi and Bagalkot which are the leading producers of pomegranate in the State. According to farmers, cultivation area of the crop has come down drastically in these regions. Krishna Patil from Bagalkot went from having 25,000 pomegranate trees spread across 85 acres to only 3 acres as of date. "In our Kaladgi region, only 10% of pomegranate farmers are left. We used to send 15-20 truckloads of fruits to Hyderabad and Kolkata during our peak years. Now, we hardly send 4-5 loads," Mr. Patil laments.

In Bagalkot district alone, there are over a thousand farmers who cultivate pomegranates. Fruits from here used to be exported to Bangladesh too. "Everything we grow has always got sold out. Such is the demand for this fruit. But now, in the time of crisis, we have been neglected," said S. B. Angadi, deputy chairman, Bagalkot Pomegranate Growers Association.

Hope for better guidance

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Shivaprakash Tekki, a pomegranate grower, would get 10 tonnes of the fruit in an acre. But after 2019, the yield has dipped by at least 60%. While some problems are caused by natural factors, the farmers are disappointed with the lack of guidance and support.

As Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai recently announced that insurance will soon be sanctioned for all pomegranate growers, farmers hope it will be of some help. "We invest lakhs on pomegranates. We need some support from the government. Farmers are ready to pay premiums for insurance. At least if it covers pesticide and fertilizer costs," Mr. Tekki said.

Farmers across the State say that pesticides are not entirely helpful. Despite multiple sprays, the fruit can still be attacked. Due to its contagious nature, sometimes even well-guarded fields are infested if farmers of nearby fields have not taken precautions. This is why S. B. Angadi, deputy chairman, Bagalkot Pomegranate Growers Association, suggests that while the damage due to weather cannot be controlled, the government should help by creating a better market for byproducts.

Government support
However, officials of the Horticulture Department said it was not true that local officers do not provide guidance. "In Bagalkot, the Centre of Excellence for pomegranate and Horticulture University are there to help. The staff, along with local officers, conduct awareness drives and provide information in advance. Further, if farmers suffer disastrous losses, they are compensated," said Rajender Kumar Kataria, Principal Secretary, Horticulture Department. He added that if there are specific issues, then local authorities can be alerted to conduct site visits.

Published by N. Ravi at Kasturi Buildings, 859 & 860, Anna Salai, Chennai-600002 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).
RNI No. RAREMG/1978/45945 • ISSN 0971 - 751X

'Begin work on developing Anjanadri within four months'

CM issues directions and seeks to end confusion on Anjaneya's 'birthplace'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KALABURAGI

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai paying respect to Lord Hanuman at the Anjanadri Hill in Koppal district on Monday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Monday not only sought to put an end to the confusion over authenticity of the "birthplace" of Lord Anjaneya, but also directed the authorities concerned to begin construction work within four months on developing Anjanadri, the "birthplace", as an international pilgrimage centre.

The Chief Minister, who held consultations with elected representatives and officials on development of Anjanadri for which ₹100 crore has been granted in the State Budget, maintained that no better evidence is needed than the historical faith of people for thousands of years on Anjanadri being Anjaneya's "birthplace".

"There is no need to declare that Anjaneya was born in Anjanadri Hill. There can be no more important evidence than that of Kishkinda [mentioned in the Ramayana epic]. Some people might be making controversial statements about the birthplace of Lord Anjaneya. But, the fact is that he was born in Kishkinda which is the Anjanadri Hill. I will repeat it a thousand times," Mr. Bommai said during his visit to Anjanadri Hill at Gangavathi taluk in Koppal district on Monday.

"My government is committed to developing the area, both the foothills and the hillock, and putting all the necessary amenities in place for tourists. We are planning to make it an international pilgrim destination. We have also planned to put a ropeway in place for facilitating the old and sick to reach the top of the hill. The tender for it would be called in the days to come. We have prepared a master plan for the development of not just Anjanadri Hill but the entire area around it. We have reserved ₹24 crore for the acquisition of lands," Mr. Bommai said.

The Chief Minister directed officials to ensure that all the works are completed within the stipulated time.

"A 600-room Yatri Nivas, toilets and hospital should be part of the project. Appoint required manpower and prepare a detailed project report within two months," Mr. Bommai told officials at a meeting he held after visiting the hills.

"We need 35 acres for parking facilities. Complete land acquisitions in two months and float tenders. The construction work should start in four months. The Yatri Nivas and road construction should be completed within eight months," he said.

The Chief Minister also said that his government has prepared a plan to put the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Hampi and Mysuru in a tourism circuit.

Dakshina Kannada murders: HDK gives ultimatum to govt. to nab culprits

He also takes exception to DG&IGP not vising DK immediately after the crimes

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MANGALURU

Former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy at the residence of slain BJP Yuva Morcha leader Praveen Nettaru at Nettaru village, near Bellare, in Sullia taluk on Monday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy on Monday served an ultimatum of August 5 to the State government to nab culprits in the three murders in Dakshina Kannada district, failing which he said he will be forced to hold a Satyagraha in front of the Deputy Commissioner's office in Mangaluru from August 6.

Launching a scathing attack on the government, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, and the State police chief, Mr. Kumaraswamy told reporters here that Mr. Bommai with his July 28 visit to the district was expected to send a soothing message to all communities.

However, he only visited the family of BJP Yuva Morcha leader Praveen Nettaru without consoling the families of Masood and Mohammed Fazil who were murdered on July 21 and July 28, he said.

Compensation

Mr. Kumaraswamy, who visited the families of Praveen, Masood and Fazil and handed over ₹5 lakh each compensation from the Janata Dal (Secular) to them before holding a media briefing, said his was not a flying visit but he spent considerable time with the family members consoling them and obtaining information about events that led to the gruesome murders.

Family members of victims have genuine apprehension about the government rendering justice in the murders. According to him, the police were yet to get any clue about Praveen's murder.

Mr. Kumaraswamy said when he saw Director General and Inspector General of Police Praveen Sood in his flight from Bengaluru to Mangaluru on Monday morning, he thought the officer was here on a big task. The officer should have visited the district on the day of the crime. "Was he busy counting monies in the transfer business," he asked.

Mr. Sood did not accompany the Chief Minister either, Mr. Kumaraswamy said adding that he expected the police head would console the families and assure them of nabbing the culprits. "His today's visit must be for conveying the RSS message to officers in Mangaluru," he alleged.

Innocents targeted

Alleging that innocent youth were being targeted, Mr. Kumaraswamy said Masood was raring a cattle calf which became an issue and the group which called him for negotiation killed him. Praveen's family was apprehensive of getting justice, he said.

State JD(S) president C.M. Ibrahim and others were present.

Chinchansur to be elected unopposed

COUNCIL BYPOLLS

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Former Minister Baburao Chinchansur of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is set to be declared elected unopposed to the Legislative Council as he is the only candidate to file nomination papers for the lone seat for which byelection is being held.

He filed his nomination on Monday, the last day for filing nominations, for the byelection to be held to fill the seat vacated by senior leader C.M. Ibrahim in the Legislative Council.

The nomination papers would be scrutinised on Tuesday when he would be declared elected unopposed if papers are in order.

Mr. Chinchansur filed his papers in the presence of Karnataka BJP president Nalin Kumar Kateel, Kalaburagi MP Umesh Jhadav, MLA Rajakumar Patil and State BJP general secretary N. Ravi Kumar.

Mr. Chinchansur is a prominent Koli community leader.

Revised electoral rolls to be published on January 5

Some provisions of electoral reforms have come into effect

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The revised electoral rolls ahead of the Legislative Assembly elections will be published on January 5, 2023 by settling all claims and litigation by December 26, 2022.

The draft electoral roll will be published on November 9, 2022, and time has been provided between November 9, 2022, and December 8, 2022, to submit any claim regarding inclusion or removal of names from the electoral roll, and special camps will be organised during the period for the same purpose.

Pre-revision exercise

While the pre-revision exercise will be taken up between August 4 and October 24, 2022, it is proposed to restrict 1,500 electors in each booth and wherever the number is higher than 1,500 a new booth will be created.

Several provisions of the electoral reforms came to effect from Monday. Speaking about the latest electoral reforms unveiled in the country, the Chief Electoral Officer of Karnataka Manoj Kumar Meena on Monday said the quality of electoral rolls will be reviewed by the roll observers appointed by the Election Commission and district electoral officer. "Already opportunity has been provided for the recognised political parties to nominate booth level agents." Among others to improve the quality of electoral rolls, Mr. Meena said: "Steps will be taken to remove the name if it is found in multiple electoral roll. Photograph will be updated if the current photographs are found smudged. Efforts would be made to ensure that all family members and neighbours are in the same division."

Chief Secretary Vandita Sharma was present.

Changes that have been made

- Those above 17 years have been allowed to apply for inclusion in advance. This will prevent youth from waiting till special drive to enrol.
  Along with January 1 as eligible date for inclusion, April 1, July 1 and October 1 are also dates eligible for inclusion.
- Simplified applications for inclusion and other changes will be available from Monday
- Voluntary linking of Aadhaar to the electoral roll has been allowed
- Priority will be given to review cases that have similar names and photographs
- To ensure better quality of electoral roll, the revision exercise will be commenced from August

No question of anyone being discriminated against: Bommai

Ours is a national party and nationalism is our stand, he says

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HUBBALLI

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Monday clarified that there is no question of anyone being discriminated against.

Speaking to presspersons in Davangere, Mr. Bommai said: "Ours is a national party. Nationalism is our stand. There is no question of anyone being discriminated against."

Responding to the charge by the Opposition parties, he said that leaders of the previous governments should introspect on their conduct over such issues during their tenures.

On the protest by his own party workers over the killing of the BJP Yuva Morcha worker, he said that those who staged protests have now understood what the government has done and there is a sense of confidence building in them now.

He also expressed confidence that the police will arrest the accused soon.

Clarifying that there was a lapse in security at the residence of Home Minister, Mr. Bommai said that those who were supposed to be at the place were not present at the time of protest and that it has been set right now.

Parameshwara-led panel to prepare Cong. manifesto

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The All-India Congress Committee president Sonia Gandhi has appointed former Deputy Chief Minister and MLA G. Parameshwara as the chairman of the 'Manifesto, Policy and Vision Committee 2023', for the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee for preparing the party's manifesto for the State Legislative Assembly elections to be held next year.

Former MLA Madhu Bangarappa and former KPCC vice-president K.E. Radhakrishna have been appointed as vice-chairpersons of the committee, said a press release issued by AICC general secretary K.C. Venugopal.

CM takes jibe at Siddaramaiah

He says the BJP is not worried about Siddaramotsava

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Monday took a jibe at former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, whose 75th birthday is set to be celebrated in a grand manner as Siddaramotsava, and said: "We have nothing to worry about Siddaramotsava. We are devotees of God Siddarama. We perform the utsav for the lord every day."

> **We have nothing to worry about Siddaramotsava. We are devotees of God Siddarama. We perform the utsav for the lord every day.**
> BASAVARAJ BOMMAI
> Chief Minister

The Congress leaders have been making grand preparations to celebrate the 75th birthday of Mr. Siddaramaiah in Davanagere on Wednesday.

In reply to queries by mediapersons, Mr. Bommai said: "We are discussing about organising Janotsava (programme to mark the first anniversary of his government) at the district-level. We have planned district-level and division-level conventions. We will announce the details in 3 to 4 days."

Murder case

Mr. Bommai said the police have been given a free hand in investigation of Praveen Nettaru murder case. The investigation is in progress. The killers would be nabbed soon.

He said the process to hand over the investigation to the NIA was on. Technical and paperwork is in the process. The case would soon be handed over to the NIA. The NIA has already been intimated informally. They are engaged in gathering preliminary information in Mangaluru and Kerala, Mr. Bommai said.

Replying to another question, the Chief Minister said that he would be visiting the families of B. Masood and Mohammed Fazil too in the coming days. Masood and Fazil were killed recently in Dakshina Kannada district.

Granting nod for probe against public servant cannot be a frolicsome act: HC

Court sets aside permission granted to ACB to conduct probe against KAS officer

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

FROM THE COURT

Granting approval to conduct investigation against public servants under Section 17A of the Prevention of Corruption Act 1988, which came into force in 2018, 'cannot be a frolicsome act', said the High Court of Karnataka.

"Section 17A is clearly a filter that the prosecution must pass in order to discourage or avoid vexatious prosecution, though cannot be considered as a protective shield for the guilty, but a safeguard for the innocent," the court said.

Justice M. Nagaprasamma made these observations while setting aside the permission granted on April 21, 2022 by the State government to the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) to conduct a probe against Shreeroopa, a KAS officer, who was posted to the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) as Deputy Secretary-2 during 2009.

The court set aside the permission as well as the FIR registered against her while pointing out that the permission does not even bear any semblance of application of mind as it merely states that 'on thorough examination' without assigning any reason.

"In my considered view, Section 17A and its purport must be observed with complete strictness bearing in mind public interest and protection available to such officers against whom offences are alleged, failing which many a time it would result in a malicious prosecution," observed Justice Nagaprasanna.

The court pointed out that as the Section 17A makes it clear that 'no officer shall conduct any enquiry or inquiry or investigation without previous approval...' the act casts an obligation of application of mind upon the authority to consider whether approval is sought for an enquiry, inquiry or an investigation.

Observing that "recording of reasons in an order is the only way that one can construe such application of mind", the court said that "reasons are live links between the mind of the decision-taker, to the controversy in question and the decision arrived at."

Ms. Shreeroopa had questioned the legality of permission granted by the government on April 21, 2022 to conduct investigation on a complaint filed by one M. Narayanaswamy in 2021 alleging fraud in registration of a sale deed of a BDA site in favour of a Scheduled Caste women in June 2009.

The government had sought BDA Commissioner's opinion on the request of ACB to conduct probe against Mr. Shreeroopa, who had executed the sale deed in 2009.

Declined permission

However, the BDA Commissioner had unequivocally declined permission pointing out that BDA had passed a resolution in 2008 to allot sites to 46 persons belonging to SC community as per a Government Order. And the petitioner, after being posted to BDA subsequently, had only executed the sale deed in terms of the authority's resolution.

Meanwhile, the court gave liberty to the government to consider ACB's request afresh, if necessary.

Additional charge

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

C.B. Ananthakrishnan, Director (Finance) of HAL, has taken over the additional charge of the post of Chairman and Managing Director following the superannuation of R. Madhavan as CMD HAL on July 31.

FROM PAGE ONE

Praveen murder case: Two suspects detained

These three persons were picked up from different parts of the State. "We are questioning them. If we find credible evidence of their involvement then they will be arrested. Else they will be freed," he said.

Three persons came in a two-wheeler and hacked to death 32-year-old Praveen Nettaru outside his shop at Bellare on July 26 night.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

HOMAGE

RESPECTFUL HOMAGE AND FOUNDERS

Smt. H.Saraswatamma & Sri M.Aryamurthy

FOUNDERS DAY on Sunday 07.08 2022

Those we love don't go away, They walk beside us every day.
Unseem, unheard, but always near;
Still loved, still missed and very dear

Trustees ,Inmates & old students of
Arya Sevashrama Trust. Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore-10

DEATH

FOND REMEMBRANCE

In Gratitude For Our Beloved, Wisdom and Grace

Sri. P. Srikanta Murthy

Retd. Executive Engineer, PWD
(14-01-1953 - 31-07-2022)

Forever you will remain in our hearts.

From,
Ahalya S Murthy and Family members.

Discourse & remembrance by family members 11:30am onwards on 3rd August at his residence."

Daughter of NTR found dead at home

STAFF REPORTER
HYDERABAD

Kantamaneni Uma Maheswari, youngest daughter of former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh N.T. Rama Rao, was found dead at her residence at Jubilee Hills here on Monday.

Family members alerted the police around 2.30 p.m., and soon the body was shifted to the Osmania General Hospital for an autopsy.

Grieving relatives who arrived at her residence said she had been suffering from an illness for some time and had been depressed. Former Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu along with his family, N. Ramakrishna, N. Balakrishna and others reached the residence. One of her daughters is expected to reach Hyderabad from abroad by Tuesday.

Family members and the police did not make any official announcement on the cause of her death. According to doctors who conducted the autopsy, a report of the examination would be available only on Tuesday. They did not disclose any other details on the family's request.

The doctors said the family had donated the eyes of Ms. Uma Maheswari as per her wish to L.V. Prasad Eye Institute.

(Assistance for overcoming suicidal thoughts is available on the helpline Roshni 040- 6620 2000).

Seven die as monsoon fury grips Kerala

Five houses were destroyed and 55 houses damaged; seven relief camps opened across the State

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The southwest monsoon unleashed its fury in Kerala on Monday with large parts of central and southern parts of the State lashed by heavy rain, triggering minor landslips and flash floods, especially in the high ranges.

Seven deaths were reported in the State over the last 24 hours. Five houses were destroyed and 55 damaged.

Pathanamthitta recorded the highest rainfall of 15 cm in the 24 hours ending at 8.30 a.m. on Monday, followed by Idukki and Kollam (9 cm each) and Kottayam (8 cm).

Under water: A view of the flooded Erattupetta causeway across the Meenachil river on Monday evening. • VISHNU PRATHAP

Car accident

Three of a family were killed when their car careened off the road and fell into a swollen stream at Mallapally in Pathanamthitta district. Another Pathanamthitta resident has gone missing after being swept away by a strong current in the Pampa river abutting Athikayam village. At Kollamulla village, one person drowned in a fast-flowing stream.

In Kollam, a 50-year-old man died after being caught under cascading water at the Kumbavu Urutti waterfall at Achankovil in Aryankavu village. In Kottayam, relatives reported a man missing after he fell into a flooded canal. In Malappuram, a youth drowned after his leisure boat capsized in the Ponnani river.

In Vizhinjam, a fisherman from Tamil Nadu died after his boat capsized in high wave while putting out to sea. He has been identified as Kingston, 27.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said heavy rain had rendered at least five houses uninhabitable and partially damaged another 55 across Kerala.

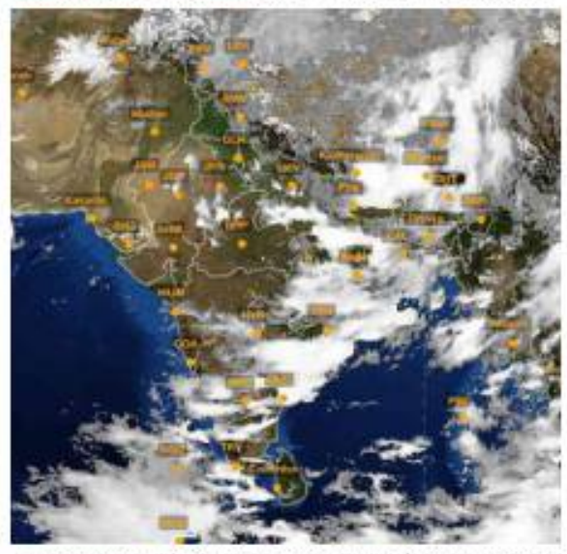
Seven relief camps have been opened – one each in Kollam, Pathanamthitta, Idukki, Thrissur, and Wayanad and two in Kottayam. As many as 90 people have been shifted to these camps. He also announced that a 24-hour disaster relief control room (8078548538) had been established at the State Emergency Operations Centre. Besides, control rooms will be opened in all districts and taluks.

The police, Revenue authorities, local self-government institutions, volunteer rescue teams, civil defence units and the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) have been placed on high alert.

Mr. Vijayan ordered them to evacuate people living in flood and landslip-prone localities.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Heavy to very heavy rainfall at a few places with extremely heavy falls at isolated places likely over Kerala, Mahe, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal. Heavy to very heavy rainfall at isolated places over Coastal and South Interior Karnataka, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	25.0	34.6	25.6	Kozhikode	3.0	28.5	25.0
Ahmedabad	1.0	32.6	26.1	Kurnool	11.0	32.8	22.3
Aizawl	1.0	27.8	21.5	Lucknow	2.0	35.0	27.4
Allahabad	–	35.0	27.4	Madurai	64.0	34.2	22.7
Bengaluru	14.0	30.5	20.3	Mangaluru	8.9	27.1	24.6
Bhopal	–	32.3	23.5	Mumbai	1.0	31.8	26.4
Bhubaneswar	–	35.6	27.2	Mysuru	8.0	31.0	21.7
Chandigarh	53.0	32.2	25.8	New Delhi	–	33.6	25.8
Chennai	–	35.5	27.6	Patna	0.5	33.6	25.8
Coimbatore	4.0	32.8	23.0	Port Blair	7.0	31.4	25.2
Dehradun	7.5	27.3	21.9	Puducherry	–	35.2	24.0
Gangtok	6.2	19.9	17.7	Pune	–	31.7	22.2
Goa	–	30.7	25.7	Raipur	–	34.2	26.0
Guwahati	6.0	32.8	26.0	Ranchi	2.0	29.3	25.1
Hubballi	–	28.0	22.0	Shillong	8.0	25.4	18.4
Hyderabad	1.0	30.9	24.0	Shimla	19.0	21.6	16.2
Imphal	4.0	30.2	20.0	Srinagar	9.0	23.3	17.0
Jaipur	0.6	32.2	25.3	Thiruvananthapuram	64.0	25.6	23.6
Kochi	57.0	29.8	24.6	Tiruchi	12.0	35.9	23.0
Kohima	20.0	25.2	16.8	Vijayawada	–	35.6	26.8
Kolkata	0.4	34.5	27.4	Visakhapatnam	–	33.0	26.8

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing — Yesterday

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	14	15	.97	37	86	
Bengaluru	10	17	107	5	24	
Chennai	31	11	.29	51	65	
Delhi	–	16	114	57	66	
Hyderabad	4	15	100	62	81	
Kolkata	11	15	.24	73	82	
Lucknow	17	28	.84	51	72	
Mumbai	58	10	–	38	170	
Pune	–	37	.95	–	–	
Visakhapatnam	16	32	.19	31	64	

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Purnia, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 171 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Gangtok, Sikkim recorded a healthy AQI score of 14.

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Flash floods hit Kukke Subrahmanya

Two bodies of children suspected to have been trapped in a landslip recovered

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MANGALURU

With torrential rain lashing temple town Kukke Subrahmanya and surrounding regions causing flash floods on Monday, the Dakshina Kannada district administration issued an advisory to devotees not to visit the pilgrimage centre for the next two days.

While the swollen Darpana Tirtha rivulet, a tributary of the Kumaradhara river, has entered the Adi Subrahmanya temple complex, the bodies of two children who were said to have been trapped in a landslip at Parvatamukhi when a portion of a hill collapsed on their house have been recovered.

A scene near Kukke Subrahmanya during flash floods on Monday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The police gave their names of the deceased as Shruthi, an 11-year-old Class V student, and Jnanashree, a six-year-old Class II student, daughters of Kusumadhara and Roopashree. Rescue works are still going on. Deputy Commissioner K.V. Rajendra issued an advisory to tourists not to visit the temple town for the next days in view of the grim situation.

District in-charge Minister V. Sunil Kumar said that torrential rains are pounding Subrahmanya, Kalmakaru, Kollamogru, Harihara, Balagodu, Ainakidu and surrounding areas. SDRF and NDRF teams have been to the region for rescue works, he said.

Local residents said that they have not seen such amount of rain in the recent past. With overflowing rivers and landslips at many places, Harihara, Kollamogru, Kalmakaru and Balagodu villages have been cut off from the mainland. Many houses and shops on the banks of the river in these villages have been affected by the flash floods.

Bail denied to 3 accused in murder case

STAFF REPORTER
VIJAYAWADA

A single-judge Bench of the Andhra Pradesh High Court comprising Justice D. Ramesh on Monday dismissed the bail petitions filed by Sunil Yadav, G. Uma Sankar Reddy and Devireddy Siva Sankar Reddy, the main accused in the Y.S. Vivekananda Reddy murder case.

The accused sought bail on health grounds and other reasons, but to no avail as the court turned down their pleas. CBI counsel argued that the investigation was likely to be affected if the accused were let out on bail.

Man who returned from UAE died of monkeypox: Report

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THRISSUR

Monkeypox has been confirmed for the youth from Chavakkad who died at a hospital in Thrissur on Saturday. It is the first monkeypox death reported in the country.

The National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune, has tested the swab taken from the patient's skin lesion for monkeypox and found it affirmative. The youth arrived from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on July 22. The lab has confirmed the West African variety of monkeypox for him.

The lab would conduct a more accurate genetic test for the virus soon, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said on Monday.

Earlier, Health Minister Veena George said the youth had tested positive for monkeypox on July 19 when he was in the UAE.

Under observation

People who are on the high-risk primary contact list of the deceased have been kept under observation. None has shown any symptoms so far, according to Health department sources. They are preparing a secondary list too.

The primary contact list included four of his friends who went to the airport to receive him, a helper, his family members, health workers, and nine others who played football with him.

The 22-year-old youth from Kurinjiyur, near Chavakkad, died on Saturday morning at a private hospital in Thrissur.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said help desks had been set up at all airports. "Monkeypox testing felicities have been started in the State. Isolation and treatment facilities have also been arranged," he said.

165 passengers

There were 165 passengers on the flight in which the youth had travelled from the UAE. They are not on his primary contact list. However, Mr. Vijayan urged the co-passengers to observe themselves for any symptoms of fever or skin rashes.

Monkeypox has a 21-day incubation period, the Chief Minister added.

According to the Health Minister, a high-level team will inquire about the death of the youth. It will also check whether the youth had any other health issues.

African swine fever reported in Kannur

After Wayanad, disease confirmed on private pig farm at Kanichar panchayat

STAFF REPORTER
KANNUR/KALPETTA

Barely a week after about 500 pigs were culled in Kerala's Wayanad district to prevent the spread of African swine fever detected there, new cases of the disease have been reported from there and Kannur.

The disease was confirmed on a private pig farm at Kanichar grama panchayat in Kannur on Sunday evening after samples of 15 pigs that died in the last 10 days tested positive at the High Security Animal Disease Laboratory in Bhopal. Two cases were confirmed on a pig farm at Poolakundu, near Nambiarkunnu in Wayanad, on the Kerala-Tamil Nadu border on Monday after the samples tested positive at the Bhopal lab. The farm is owned by Biju Muchilode at Nenmeni grama panchayat.

Dead stock: There is a ban on the distribution and sale of pork from areas where the disease has been confirmed. • FILE PHOTO

In Kannur, the Animal Husbandry department is set to commence the process of electrical stunning of pigs on the farms within a radius of 1 km on Monday or Tuesday. It has been instructed to monitor pigs on farms within a radius of 10 km from this area, said S.J. Lekha, District Animal Husbandary officer.

Ms. Lekha said a meeting has been called by the District Collector and necessary preventive steps will be taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

Strict vigilance

Those working on pig farms and people who visited farms have been warned to be vigilant and are instructed to be in 24-hour quarantine. The movement of pigs will be restricted within the district, she added.

There is a ban on the distribution and sale of pork from areas where the disease has been confirmed. A special squad has been formed to monitor the State borders and inspections have been intensified.

The situation has left pig farmers in Kannur worried. They complain that the compensation of ₹15,000 for a pig weighing more than 100 kg is insufficient to make up for the loss.

Three pigs on the farm at Poolakundu in Wayanad had died earlier, following which officials collected samples from 11 of the 193 pigs on the farm on July 24. Two of the samples have tested positive, P. Rajesh, Chief Veterinary Officer, Wayanad, told *The Hindu*. Compensation will be paid to owners of the culled animals on Central guidelines.

Realtor shot dead in Madhapur

STAFF REPORTER
HYDERABAD

A 34-year-old realtor, a history-sheeter and former life convict, Mohammed Ismail of Hyderabad Old City was shot dead allegedly by his business associates in a suspected land dispute case in Madhapur police limits in the early hours of Monday.

Mr. Ismail who had suffered bullet wounds to his head, was declared brought dead at Osmania General Hospital. His partner Jahangir who reportedly attempted obstructing the attackers was also fired at. He was being treated at a hospital.

Police who have recovered 0.32mm bullet casings from the crime scene, which led to believe the weapon used was a country-made pistol.

Kerala opposes changes to MMDR Act

State asks Centre to not to allow corporate entry into atomic minerals sector

A.M. JIGEESH
NEW DELHI

The Kerala government has opposed the new set of proposed amendments to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act. State Industries Minister P. Rajeeve met Union Coal and Mines Minister Pralhad Joshi here on Monday and told him that the amendments are a breach of States' rights as minerals come under the purview of States. The Centre had invited suggestions from the public to the draft amendments to the MMDR Act.

Mr. Rajeeve termed the proposed amendments as anti-Constitutional and added that the proposals may lead to improper handling of strategically important minerals such as uranium by select private companies. "It is against the national interest," Mr. Rajeeve told *The Hindu* after his meeting with Mr. Joshi along with Kerala Finance Minister K.N. Balagopal. He added that the State will hold discussions with other mineral-rich States for joint opposition of the amendments.

Kerala is endowed with rich resources which are significant for their strategic nature, says CPI(M) leader. • FILE PHOTO

The main objection is against the sixth item in the note for consultation sent to the State governments that will empower the Centre to auction some minerals from the list of atomic minerals. "Kerala is endowed with rich resource of Beach Sand Minerals and some of them are significant not only for their economic ambit but for the strategic nature also," Mr. Rajeeve said in his letter to Mr. Joshi.

He added that Kerala strongly opposes the proposed amendment as State governments are the owners of the mines and minerals located within the territory of the State concerned, and under Entry 23 of List II of the Constitution and the Constitutional right of the State under Article 246(3), State Assemblies can make laws on such minerals.

He warned that any loss or leakage of the Monazite (being the primary source of thorium) and Rare Earth (occurring in association with Beach Sand Minerals) due to mineral processing would be significant loss affecting national security.

Mr. Rajeeve told *The Hindu* that private monopoly companies should not be allowed to handle precious and strategically important minerals and the earlier stand of the Centre should not be changed.

Parandur chosen as site for Chennai's second airport

It was picked over Pannur from the final list

SUNITHA SEKAR
CHENNAI

Finally, after more than two decades, the site for Chennai's second airport has been finalised at Parandur, 59 km from the existing airport.

On Monday, in response to a question raised by Rajya Sabha MP from Tamil Nadu Kanimozhi NVN Somu, Minister of State for Civil Aviation V.K. Singh said the Tamil Nadu government had shortlisted Parandur as the site for the second airport – a greenfield airport – for Chennai.

The State government will now have to submit a proposal to the Ministry of Civil Aviation for 'grant of site clearance' for the finalised site.

"After comparing the viability and feasibility, including the presence of habitations and industrial establishments and the land acquisition cost of both the sites, the State government has shortlisted Parandur site as the location for development of the greenfield airport," the Minister said.

According to the Greenfield Airports Policy, 2008, this process comprises a two stage approval – 'site clearance' and 'in-principle' approval.

Talks to establish a second airport for the city resumed early this year, and the State government requested the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to execute a feasibility study for the project. Four sites - Pannur, Parandur, Tiruporur and Padalam - were identified, and the AAI team inspected each site and submitted a report.

Pannur and Parandur were then shortlisted. After studying the various prospects in both locations, the State government held a meeting with the Centre recently to choose the site. Post meeting, Tamil Nadu Industries Minister Thangam Thennarasu said the Civil Aviation Ministry had expressed its willingness to go along with what the State government recommended.

The site at Parandur is located in Kancheepuram district, and according to the report prepared by AAI, it is 59 km southwest of the existing Chennai airport. The report also states: "The average distance travelled by a passenger to Parandur airport will be 73 km, and the average time taken will be 1 hour and 54 minutes as against the 21 km and 54 minutes taken to travel to the present Chennai airport."

The site that they have finalised is over 4,791 acres, and of this, 2,605 acres fall under the wetland category, while the remaining 827 acres is dry land, the report stated. This could be an ideal two runway airport, but if parallel runways were to be built then an additional 200 acres of land would have to be acquired.

The report has looked at the obstacles present in and around the site.

Unpacking a conundrum

The authorities must communicate the potential severity of monkeypox

A fortnight after India confirmed its first case of monkeypox, it has reported its first casualty. A 22-year-old man, from Thrissur in Kerala, died due to suspected monkeypox symptoms, a day after which Kerala's Health Minister Veena George said he had tested positive in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The patient was undergoing treatment in a private hospital for severe fatigue and brain fever, six days after his arrival in the State on July 21. His swab samples have been sent to the ICMR-National Institute of Virology (NIV) centre in Alappuzha for confirmation. Death from the virus is reportedly rare, though as the experience of COVID-19 shows, it could vary depending on the population at hand. According to the World Health Organization, the case fatality ratio of monkeypox has historically ranged from 0% to 11% in the general population and has been higher among young children. In recent times, the case fatality ratio has been around 3%-6%. While the disease has been around in Africa since the 1970s, it has also been reported in the U.S., the U.K. and Israel. In 2017, Nigeria experienced a large outbreak, with a case fatality ratio of approximately 3%; cases continue to be reported. It is the surge outside Africa, in 78 countries, that has elevated the risk profile of the disease along with the realisation that there are considerable gaps in knowledge on whether the disease poses a greater risk to specific population groups, just as it was eventually determined for COVID-19. In monkeypox deaths in Brazil and Spain, the patients were reported to have had serious associated syndromes such as encephalitis and lymphoma, though it is unclear what role the virus played in their disease outcome.

That monkeypox spreads mainly through sexual transmission and close contact – it is not an airborne disease – should not be of comfort to health authorities. The death in Thrissur highlights the need for a thorough probe as well as a public disclosure on the case progression. For instance, Kerala's health authorities say the person was admitted not after being confirmed to be monkeypox-positive but due to a fever and experiencing fatigue. It was only later that the rashes and blisters showed up. Intriguingly, that he had tested positive for monkeypox was disclosed to the health authorities a day before he died. It is to rule out a misdiagnosis of monkeypox (by the UAE) that the NIV has undertaken a re-test. India has announced a task force to monitor the disease spread. The Indian Council of Medical Research has isolated the strain of the virus and invited vaccine makers to develop a vaccine. It has also invited proposals to develop diagnostic kits. While it is fortunate that the disease so far appears to be self-limiting, the Government must not be slack in transparently communicating the potential severity of the disease.

Language as barrier

There are pluses and minuses in making the mother tongue the medium for higher studies

The call by Home Minister Amit Shah last week for engineering, law and medicine to be taught in Indian languages is a well-intentioned one. His stand is in sync with one of the focal points of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, i.e., the promotion of Indian languages in higher education. The NEP provides for more higher educational institutions and programmes in higher education to use the mother tongue or local language as a medium of instruction, besides offering programmes bilingually. The rationale behind Mr. Shah's call is that 95% of students, who receive primary education in their mother tongue, should not be left out in their pursuit of higher studies. In recent years, substantive measures have been taken to make engineering courses available in Indian languages, if the statement by Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan in the Lok Sabha in December 2021 is an indication. Effective 2021-22, the AICTE granted approval to 19 engineering colleges in 10 States for having engineering courses in six Indian languages. The Council has also developed an "AICTE Translation Automation AI Tool" that translates English online courses in 11 Indian languages. SWAYAM, an open online courses platform of the Central government, has been offering some popular courses in Indian languages too. The import of this is that the goal of covering all sections as far as higher education is concerned should become a reality. But, at the same time, one should not gloss over the exercise not having yielded results. In Tamil Nadu, for instance, the bid to impart engineering education through the Tamil medium has not created any impact despite the principal political players using language as a political tool. In the field of law – before the subject is taught in the Indian languages – the Central government should try to impress upon the judiciary to allow the use of Indian languages in court proceedings.

While there is no need for haste in making educational materials available in Indian languages, the approach and methodology should be discussed threadbare by policymakers and educationists, without political pressure or interference. What should be made obvious is that the use of English, wherever desirable, should be retained, with no aversion shown on the ground that it is a "foreign" language. It would not be out of place to highlight issues about standards and the quality of teaching of Indian languages in schools. Be it Gujarati or Hindi or even Tamil, students have been found to fail in their public examinations in language papers. There is also the point of diminished employability outside the region of the language. If the Government is serious in taking forward its stated position of creating higher education access to certain sections, it should dispassionately study the advantages and the disadvantages.

Reengineering India's consciousness

India's democracy has been successfully hacked and progressive forces need hard course-correction in any fightback

PUSHPARAJ DESHPANDE

India is fast reaching a critical point of no return. The centre of the nation's political culture has shifted so far rightward that the consensus on where India should be heading (even if parties differed on how we should get there) has collapsed. Hate and violence are so pervasive that what was unimaginable yesterday is inevitable tomorrow. Without a doubt, India's democracy has been successfully hacked, and the national political culture that was collaboratively forged in India's Constituent Assembly is being insidiously re-wired.

A case of steady progress

Yet, it would be a misnomer to posit that this started only during 2014. Always on the fringes and working without state power, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and later the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) were forced to focus on non-electoral politics. However, two crucial breakthroughs enabled them to dramatically escalate the scope of their work. The Janata Party government enabled the RSS to position ideological sympathisers in the bureaucracy as well as the media and film industries. This project accelerated during the first tenure of the National Democratic Alliance government, and was leveraged devastatingly between 2010 and 2014. Key stakeholders, both within and outside the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government, worked in concert to reshape India's consciousness. Just to cite three inter-connected examples, the India Against Corruption movement (which was purportedly propped up by the RSS-BJP) destabilised the UPA and legitimised anti-establishment norms. This was accentuated by senior bureaucrats (many of whom joined the BJP eventually) crippling key levers of state power from 2011. In conjunction, the BJP stalled Parliament repeatedly, to propagate the myth of "policy paralysis". Collectively, these blamed all of India's woes on the 'elite establishment' (the Khan-market/Lutyens gang) and the political culture it upheld, namely India's Constitution.

Sanction by the people

None of this would have been possible without the people's sanction. But that sanction did not emerge organically. In its multi-pronged war on India's political culture, the Sangh Parivar first re-engineered public discourse. For example, it has been pointed out that the Sangh has weaponised social media effectively. While progressive forces are still focused on Twitter (which boasts of 23.6 million users in India), the Sangh focused its energies on YouTube (265 million monthly active users in India), Facebook (329 million users in India) and WhatsApp (459 million users in India). It is telling that one in every three Indians on social media consumes political content daily, much of it from the Sangh. Similarly, the RSS-BJP have also weaponised popular culture successfully. A spate of films (*The Accidental Prime Minister*, *Uri: The Surgical Strike*, *PM Narendra Modi*, *The Tashkent Files*, *The Kashmir Files*, *1946*, *Calcutta Killings*, etc.), media channels, books and think-tanks have been deployed to reinforce the Sangh's ideological, political and cultural messages.

The Sangh has also tried to reshape our consciousness by controlling the education system (by altering curricula, appointing its cadre as faculty), by leveraging the influence of community leaders in exchange for political assignments, by misusing the grass-roots network of religious institutions,

PTI/U.R.J. RAWAT

and working on the Indian diaspora aggressively through shadowy organisations that work in tandem with Indian embassies. It is critical that progressives understand that the Sangh is not merely winning elections. In reality, elections are just the most visible arena on which the Sangh is battling India's constitutional edifice. Considerable effort has gone in reprogramming the hearts and minds of our fellow Indians, which is why elections are won before they are even announced. This has been so successful that it has even afflicted the political class. Increasingly, leaders across party lines pander to communal, casteist, patriarchal and other regressive sentiments. This socio-psychological shift is so definitive that even those who are clairvoyant in their opposition to regressive values flirt with the notion that the BJP can be outmanoeuvred from the right. Yet, others have made peace with the idea that the BJP can be defeated only after 2029 (by when its current leadership could have ceded to a new generation).

This ideological confusion and defeatism does not bode well for India, and not just because the BJP is relentless in its attack on the constitutional idea of India. Like during the freedom struggle, we progressives face the full might of the Indian state today. Every day, we are faced with a fresh litany of villainies.

Progressives outmanoeuvred

But it is unfair to credit the Sangh for everything. We have to acknowledge that most progressive forces today are analog players in a digital world. Yes, progressives are reeling with organisational infirmities and a lack of resources. But they are outmanoeuvred because they strive to counter the BJP with dogmatic tactics such as petitions/open letters, symbolic protests/*dharnas*, and stolid press conferences/press releases/tweets. Even if these tactics could cut through BJP's chokehold over the media, they do nothing to alter the status quo. Activists continue to be targeted, governments continue to be destabilised, and agencies continue to harass. Equally worryingly, this creative inertia does not inspire or enthuse the silent majority. Instead, it cements the impression that there is no alternative. Today, it is widely perceived that progressives' parties lack vision, and have forgotten both *rajniti* (statecraft) and *lokniti* (pro-people politics). Furthermore, even though considerable effort and resources are expended on these tactics, they remain limited to sanitised comfort zones.

The key to a recovery

Progressive forces need a hard course-correction. The biggest challenge for us is to think about how we can re-programme India's consciousness. This cannot be achieved merely by winning elections, or through symbolic stratagems. These will not stem the continued rightward shift. We need to regain a dominant political and psychological position, for which we have to creatively use the Constitution to first re-engineer both India's software (culture, values and attitudes) and then hardware (economy, institutions and systems).

Even though progressive parties do not have the instruments of the state at their disposal (except in a few States), they have other arrows in their quivers. They need to urgently experiment with disruptive political strategies such as *padayatras*, mass-outreach campaigns to community and sectoral influencers, grass-roots campaigns linked to mass crowd-funding on issues of national importance, and *mohalla*/panchayat-level sabhas. These need to be complemented with an inspiring alternative vision, and targeted messaging driven by data analytics. But most of all, they need to forge principled alliances with stakeholders who can either drive value-based messages through the media and through popular culture (films/serials, books, comics, plays, folklore, etc.) or tangibly marshal support.

This systematic work needs to be methodically done, away from the media glare and cannot be limited to transactional exigencies. Progressive parties need to acknowledge that such society-scale transformations cannot be effected by electoral machines alone (which is what political parties have been reduced to). They need concerted action by organisations that exclusively focus on re-engineering India – politically, socially, economically and culturally.

Martin Luther King Jr. once said that "those who love peace must learn to organize as effectively as those who love war". That is why, like the Congress movement once did (and the RSS reproduced to calamitous effect), progressives will have to form sustainable relationships with the people – from the panchayat to Parliament. Only then can we effect an Indian version of *vergangenheitsaufarbeitung* ("working off the past", that Germany undertook post Nazism). But for this endeavour to be successful, all progressive forces need to collaborate and invest in escalating this ideological war we find ourselves in. Only then can we overwhelm regressive forces, and reclaim India's soul.

Pushparaj Deshpande is the Director of the Samruddha Bharat Foundation, a multi-party platform that furthers India's constitutional promise. He is also Series Editor of the 'Rethinking India' series

Using a rupee route to get around a dominating dollar

India could take advantage of geopolitical developments to promote trade and gain better status for the rupee

SUNANDA SEN

A number of countries, including India, are now considering the use of other currencies to avoid the U.S. dollar and its hegemonic role in settling international transactions. As for India, currency hierarchy goes back to colonial times when the Indian rupee was virtually linked to the British pound rather than to gold which it earned through exports. In the post-War period, the neo-colonial currency hierarchy has been clubbed with the continued use, primarily of the U.S. dollar, for the majority of international transactions. The current situation relates, in addition, to geopolitical developments, the Russia-Ukraine war in the forefront followed by the sanctions imposed on Russia by the West.

The present scenario

In recent times, India has been taking an active interest in having the rupee used for trade and the settlement of payments with other countries, which include Russia, now facing sanctions. Even earlier, the annexation of Crimea in 2014 had resulted in the imposition of similar sanctions against Russia over a period of time. Settling payments with Russia by India, especially for mineral fuels and oil imports as well as for the S-400 Triumf air defence system has been continuing on a semi-informal basis through rupee payments by using the Vostro accounts maintained by Russian banks in India. The Reserve Bank of India has recently taken a proactive stand to have rupee settlement of trade (circular dated July 11, 2022). While options for invoicing in rupees were already legal in terms of Regulation 7(I) of the Foreign Exchange Management (Deposit) Regulations, 2016, the current circular aims to operationalise the special Vostro accounts with Russian banks in India, in a bid to promote trade and also gain a better status for the rupee as an international currency.

Possible advantages

The advantages India is currently seeking in these arrangements include avoidance of transactions in the highly priced dollar which has an exchange value of ₹80, impacting the Indian economy with inflation, capital flight (aggravated by interest rate hikes by the Fed and possible hikes in the European Union as well) and the drop in foreign exchange reserves by $70 billion since September 2021. Buying oil with a depreciated ruble, and at discounts, is not only cost-saving but also saves transport time with the use of multi-modal routes using land, sea and air routes. In addition, India is looking forward to trade expansion in sanctions-affected Russia (leading to recession and de-industrialisation there). As mentioned by Alexey Yusupov in the *IPS Journal* on July 20, the impact of sanctions on Russia includes L-shaped stagnation in GDP which has declined by 10% to 15%,

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

with de-industrialisation and unemployment (largely on account of the retreat of most western companies from the country leading to sharp declines in the production of steel, wood and automobiles). With India having a trade deficit with Russia, which has been around $3.52 billion on average over the last two financial years, India's opportunities include the possible use, by Russia, of the surpluses in the Vostro rupee account in Russian banks for additional purchases from India. Such purchases could include not only pharmaceutical products and electrical machinery (which are currently the major items of India's exports to Russia) but also a range of products that Russia might need, particularly to redress the hardship faced with the sanctions.

Some hurdles

There are quite a few problems that may prevail in implementing the desired rupee payments and avoiding dollar transactions. Apart from issues that concern an agreed exchange rate between the rupee and the ruble (R-R), two volatile currencies, there is also the question of the willingness of private parties (companies, banks) to accept the rupee for trade and settlements. Will they be ready to forego the greenback? Of course if Russia opens its door for exports from India, the 'R-R' route may prove attractive for Indian exporters. Finally, there are official concerns for reactions, particularly from the U.S., to deals, especially for purchase of the S-400 defence equipment. And the fear continues even after the recent Congressional approval of those purchases as a special case in the backdrop of Chinese aggression. Moreover, the deals between India and Russia, especially on oil, can be considered by the West as 'indirect back door support' – as India is importing Russian crude at 30% discount, processing at refineries in Gujarat which include Reliance, and then exporting those to the West. As reported by the *Economic Times* (June 13, 2021), such exports amounted to $1.5 billion per day in May 2021. These companies are exporting to the West with 'robust refining margins', as Alex Lawson mentions in *The Guardian* (June 22).

There were attempts even before the novel coronavirus pandemic to initiate a clearing account on the BRICS platform. An analysis by the writer in the *EPW* on the quantitative implications indicate a skewed pattern of transactions – with China having most of the trade surplus. It is a pattern similar to what is happening in India-Russia trade at the moment.

Examples to note

Attempts to use the rupee for invoicing and trading is, however, not new to India. A comprehensive bilateral trade and payments agreement was signed by India in 1953 with the Soviet bloc countries (it included those that later formed a part of the Commonwealth of Independent States.) Crucial aspects of the arrangement included: participation by state-trading units alone; fixed exchange rates as agreed upon by trade partners, and the offer of credit by countries that had a trade surplus to countries with a trade deficit. In general, most of the bilateral agreements were marked by scissor-like operations on a continuous basis, in effect clearing the imbalances as the surplus country was importing more from the deficit partner, or offering credit to the latter. The Soviet Union's credit to India enabled the setting up of the Bhilai steel plant, other industrial units, oil refineries and pharmaceuticals – all controlled by India's public sector. The agreement ended in 1991 following the dissolution of the Soviet Union, leaving behind some issues of a rupee surplus and the 'R-R' rate of exchange.

However, history moves on. The market economies in most parts of the world today negate the possibility of having the state or the public sector at centre-stage. But still, the India-Soviet agreements of the past may provide a clue on how the current 'R-R' trade and the problems can be managed by initiating a push for Indian exports to Russia and, of course, avoiding all deals in dollars – benefiting both trade partners and countering, globally, the on-going currency hierarchy.

Sunanda Sen was a Professor at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

To read more letters online, scan the QR code

State of Parliament

The topicality of the Editorial, "An alarming fall" (August 1), needs no reiteration. Ours is a parliamentary democracy. And the core values of a parliamentary democracy include transparency, social and political inclusiveness, and accessibility to the procedures. But these canons are observed these days more in their breach than in their adherence, both by the Opposition parties and the ruling regime. Dissent and debates are said to be the hallmarks of democracy. Sadly, what we observe in our august Houses are deplorable disruptions and acrimonious demonstrations that are countered by ruthless repressiveness. This has debilitating effects on a robust parliamentary culture. And the unfortunate consequences lie in the presumptuous passage of Bills sans any fruitful discussion.

N. SADASIVAN PILLAI,
Kollam, Kerala

■ There is, without doubt, a steep fall in the standards of debates, discussion, agreements and disagreements. A place that is sacred, a place where decisions are to be taken for the people of India, has now become a ground to settle personal scores. It has been a very long time since there has been meaningful debate. Critical issues are brushed aside while trivial issues come up by the day. The Opposition parties are also to blame – they demonstrate actions and behaviour that are irresponsible. Protests and walkouts are no solutions to grave issues. The art of listening seems to be totally absent. The best political brains and the voices of seasoned and experienced political leaders are mute. Why is there no effort to prioritise issues and an effort made to find possible solutions? That the ruling party, with all the majority on its side, is not able to handle a weak Opposition is surprising. The nation and its people are the sufferers.

BALASUBRAMANIAM PAVANI,
Secunderabad

■ Debate, discussion and sound decisions are the hallmark and an important component of our parliamentary democracy. It is true that parliamentary standards have fallen.

C.A.C. MURUGAPPAN,
Kothamangalam, Tamil Nadu

TMC and 'scam'

It was only after increasing pressure that West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee acted against a 'tainted' Minister, who is now under the scanner of the Enforcement Directorate in the school recruitment scam. One wonders how a Chief Minister with all the resources at her command, remained oblivious to her most trusted colleague's maleficence. She has a lot to explain to her people.

S.K. CHOUDHURY,
Bengaluru

Hidden talent

The long-neglected Northeast is proving to be the powerhouse of Indian sports as seen in the medal flow at international meets. The latest to join the brigade is Jeremy Lalrinnunga. Since he is not yet out of his teens, there is every possibility of him becoming a medal giant.

ANTHONY HENRIQUES,
Mumbai

Government's own 'gig workers'

Outsourcing jobs to contractors is far more inefficient than fixed term contracts

PUSHKAL SHIVAM

Food delivery agents wait outside a restaurant in Vijayawada. • GIRI KVS

When images of a langur appear on the walls of Vigyan Bhavan and nearby sites in New Delhi, the protagonist (Anjani Prasad) in the movie, *Eeb Allay Ooot*, is summoned along with his *thekedaar* (contractor) to the office of the municipal corporation. A complaint about the images that were put up by Anjani to scare away the monkeys has reached the officer and he threatens to cancel the contract for shooing away the monkeys. The absurdity of the task, for which a *thekedaar* is appointed by floating a tender, may unsettle the viewers. However, for those engaged by the various levels of the government through such contracts, it is a lived reality.

While the Agnipath scheme has ignited a debate on the nature of jobs in the government, 'temporary' jobs have comprised the vast majority of available government employment for quite some time. They may be classified into three categories; permanent, contractual and daily wagers.

Outsourcing: a dominant mode

A commentator recently referred to it as "the caste system of permanent, contractual, and casual employees". Outsourcing has become the dominant mode of working in the government, from highly specialised tasks to the most routine ones. It may be a *safai karamchari* (sanitation worker), a driver/conductor of your city bus service, a junior engineer or a highly paid consultant – all engagements are usually outsourced to an agency. The modalities of "contractual" jobs in the public sector, therefore, require a much deeper examination than it has been afforded in recent debates to understand its impact on various public services.

There are two main methods to induct an 'employee' on contract in a government entity; first, directly on the payroll of the entity and, second, through a labour contractor or as part of any other contract entered into pursuant to a tender process. In both cases, the costs and liabilities of the government entity are significantly reduced compared to a "permanent" position. While the entity may remain the principal employer in both cases, the burden of responsibility is shifted to the contractor in the case of the latter, which is also the predominant mode of engaging contractual workers.

Non-payment of salaries for extended periods, fudging of statutory deductions for the worker's welfare such as provident fund (PF), employees' state insurance (ESI), etc. by the labour contractor, and uneven distribution of work vis-à-vis "permanent" employees, are all common and well-known features of such contracts. This has serious repercussions for the quality of public service that is sought to be provided including sanitation, public transport, health, etc. Urban and rural local bodies are an important site to understand the implications of a large "contractual" workforce.

Shift of responsibility

Arguably, for the managers or officers in the government, the shifting of responsibility to the contractor and the possibility of litigation seeking 'regularisation' for the workers predisposes them to such labour contracts. The overwhelming reliance on contractors, who almost function as the HR managers of the government, has undermined our institutions.

It is often the case that the managers/officers in the government do not have the capability to draft or even review basic tender documents. Consequently, there is an endless chain of delegating tasks so much so that at any time there are more people to get things done than those who could actually do things. What is our solution then? We float another tender to appoint experts or consultants who would do things for us.

I would argue that contractual recruitment has largely been a missed opportunity to augment the capacity of the government, particularly those wings of the state that cater various services to people, as well as to create a viable avenue of employment for India's burgeoning working age population. This is subject to the appropriate mode of engagement and safeguards that add institutional capabilities rather than shifting the onus of management to an external agency.

Due to fiscal constraints and a large workforce, contractual jobs will continue to eclipse 'permanent' ones at least in terms of numbers. Our local bodies, parastatals, special purpose vehicles and other public utilities stand to gain considerably if the modalities of engagement are diligently worked out.

As an example, following the recent strike by the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) staff in Maharashtra, Aurangabad's City Bus Service, operated as a joint venture with the former, had to be suspended due to non-availability of drivers and conductors. Instead of outsourcing the service to a private agency, a decision was made to directly recruit the drivers and conductors from amongst ex-servicemen via fixed term contracts to be renewed periodically.

In addition, a maintenance division was set up for daily maintenance from amongst the ex-servicemen retired from mechanical and engineering divisions of the Army. As a result, a significant improvement was seen in various service level parameters in a short span. The Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs' The Urban Learning Internship Program (TULIP), which enables city authorities to directly engage a young workforce for a fixed term, is another example of a step in the right direction.

Shaping realities

Our critique of public employment, which is largely framed as the presence or absence of the security and benefits of a permanent job, may be disconnected from the predominant modes of recruitment shaping the realities of young people's lives. Moreover, even though a permanent government job remains highly coveted, it may be important to also recognise that not everyone may aspire to 'permanence' due to various reasons.

Fixed term contractual stints with the government with safeguards against sheer exploitation can be a major source of employment. However, such modes of recruitment will have to assimilate the principles of affirmative action, in line with the vision of social justice enshrined in our Constitution. This is key in order to avoid becoming a mechanism that will skirt provisions for reservation.

As we seek to regulate the "gig economy", it may be time for the government to take some concrete measures for its own "gig workers".

Pushkal Shivam is the former deputy CEO of a Smart City SPV in Maharashtra

Working towards animal health

A collaboration is needed between veterinary science and human health experts to forge effective tools

ATUL CHATURVEDI

The developments unleashed by COVID-19 have once again put the spotlight on the pressing need to create greater collaborations and synergies between research on human health and animal health. India has a livestock population of 1.6 billion, that in turn translates into a scenario where approximately 280 million farmers rely on the livestock and related industries for livelihood.

From the perspective of trade, the dairy industry in the country is valued at $160 billion, while the meat industry is valued at $50 billion. In addition, livestock and related activities have significant overlap with wildlife and humans. In the current atmosphere of climate change and unpredictable weather, animal husbandry assumes significance as a source of reliable income to farmers.

Increase in zoonotic diseases

Statistics indicate that globally, we have witnessed around 9,580 instances of disease outbreaks from 2000 to 2010, of which 60% diseases were zoonotic in nature. Likewise, the incidences of disease outbreaks across the globe have been increasing at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 6%. In India, we see that annual outbreak of zoonotic diseases translates into an estimated annual loss of $12 billion to the economy.

Thus, even though these diseases do not affect human health directly, they are responsible for huge consequences to farmers, exports and gross domestic product (GDP) growth nationally. In this background, close collaboration is the need between veterinary science and human health experts to forge effective tools for pandemic preparedness. A major loophole in the context of pandemic preparedness can be attributed to the fact that it has largely been human centric, leaving a large unaddressed gap for diseases of pandemic potential in animals.

The Department of Animal Husbandry in Government of India has been working towards increased investment in preparedness to protect health and building economic resilience so that India could become a world leader in animal pandemic preparedness. To this end, the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) has set up a dedicated 'One Health Unit' in collaboration with the Gates Foundation. One of the primary focus areas of the unit has been on coming up with an "animal pandemic preparedness" model by creating a mechanism for storage and seamless exchange of data and information on livestock health – this will be implemented through the National Digital Livestock Mission (NDLM).

So far, synergies from advances in human vaccines have not been leveraged in animal vaccine development. Thus, to incentivise the growth of the animal health industry in India, companies can now avail incentives for setting up or expansion of animal vaccine and related infrastructure under the Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Fund.

Additionally, DAHD in collaboration with the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser, Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), and the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) has set up an Empowered Committee for Animal Health to streamline the animal health regulatory ecosystem in the country.

To create a robust pandemic preparedness model, it is imperative to juxtapose the data on animal health with the available data on human health. Within the framework of the NDLM, so far, substantial progress has also been made by linking all the animal disease diagnostic labs involved in sero-surveillance through a single portal, and harmonisation of SOPs used by labs.

Creating a successful model

A successful animal pandemic preparedness model template would entail seamless coordination with critical ecosystem partners to ensure timely and successful development of animal drugs and vaccines. The ecosystem partners would include entities carrying out pathogen prioritisation and aiding pharma companies in vaccine research, Indian pharma companies, and global organisations like World Organisation for Animal Health, Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisations, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, etc.

This pandemic preparedness initiative would thus enable the linking and comparison of real-time information regarding diseases between wildlife and human systems – that would create a reliable mechanism for forecasting disease outbreaks. This India-focused initiative will also present a good starting point to lead global pandemic preparedness effort because this threat is faced by other countries as well, including developed economies.

The dynamic model under preparation would further result in enhanced disease surveillance so that we are better prepared before the next outbreak hits.

Atul Chaturvedi is Former Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying

STATE OF PLAY

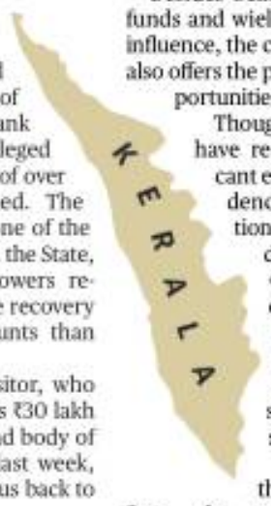
An impending crisis

The recent scams in Kerala have made the CPI(M) tread carefully to avoid further damage

K S SUDHI

The cooperative sector of Kerala, which is considered the locomotive of the economic activities at the grassroot level in the State, is in the throes of an unprecedented crisis with news of corruption and financial mismanagement of considerable proportions surfacing. Reports on the inability of over 100 societies to repay the money deposited by investors have made matters worse.

What was earlier discounted as stray incidents of corruption and mismanagement turned out to be occurring on a much larger scale, even as more and more irregularities were discovered in the CPI(M)-controlled Karuvannur Service Cooperative Bank in Thrissur district two years ago. The police had booked cases against the members of the director board of the bank and its staffers after the alleged financial fraud to the tune of over ₹100 crore was unearthed. The scam, which is arguably one of the biggest to be reported from the State, came to light after borrowers received legal notices for the recovery of loans for higher amounts than what they had borrowed.



The protest by a depositor, who was unable to withdraw his ₹30 lakh fixed deposit, with the dead body of his wife before the bank last week, once again brought the focus back to issues ailing the sector.

A recent reply given by the State Cooperative Minister on the floor of the Assembly that 164 societies in the State were in dire straits and unable to return the deposits to the investors was indicative of the impending crisis. The Minister's clarification that it was mostly the welfare societies and not banks that have found themselves in trouble has not helped much to ease the situation.

Incidentally, there are no spheres in Kerala society which have been left untouched by the cooperative movement. The nearly 20,000 societies including the Primary Agricultural Credit Cooperative Societies and the urban cooperative banks together have a whopping net worth of over ₹2.5 lakh crore.

Though the Kerala cooperatives together account for only 1.7% of the total number of such institutions in the country, they handle around 70% of the total funds.

Given its potential to influence the lives of people through a host of financial and welfare schemes, both the CPI(M) and the Congress have been paying extra attention to maintain their presence and upper hand in the sector. While the CPI(M) controls nearly 60% of these societies, the Congress-led panels are calling the shots in the remaining ones. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has only a negligible presence in the sector.

Besides being able to handle the funds and wield significant political influence, the control of the societies also offers the political parties job opportunities for their cadre.

Though the recent scams have resulted in the significant erosion of public confidence in these institutions, both the ruling dispensation and the Opposition are handling the issue with caution, considering the disastrous consequences that a wrong step could cause the sector.

Even while holding the CPI(M) accountable for the scams, the Congress leadership appeared keen not to rock the boat considering the domino effect it would have on Kerala society.

The CPI(M), realising the damage the scams could cause to its political and pecuniary interests, has made every possible attempt to downplay the crisis and to picturise the recent controversies as attempts to destabilise the sector.

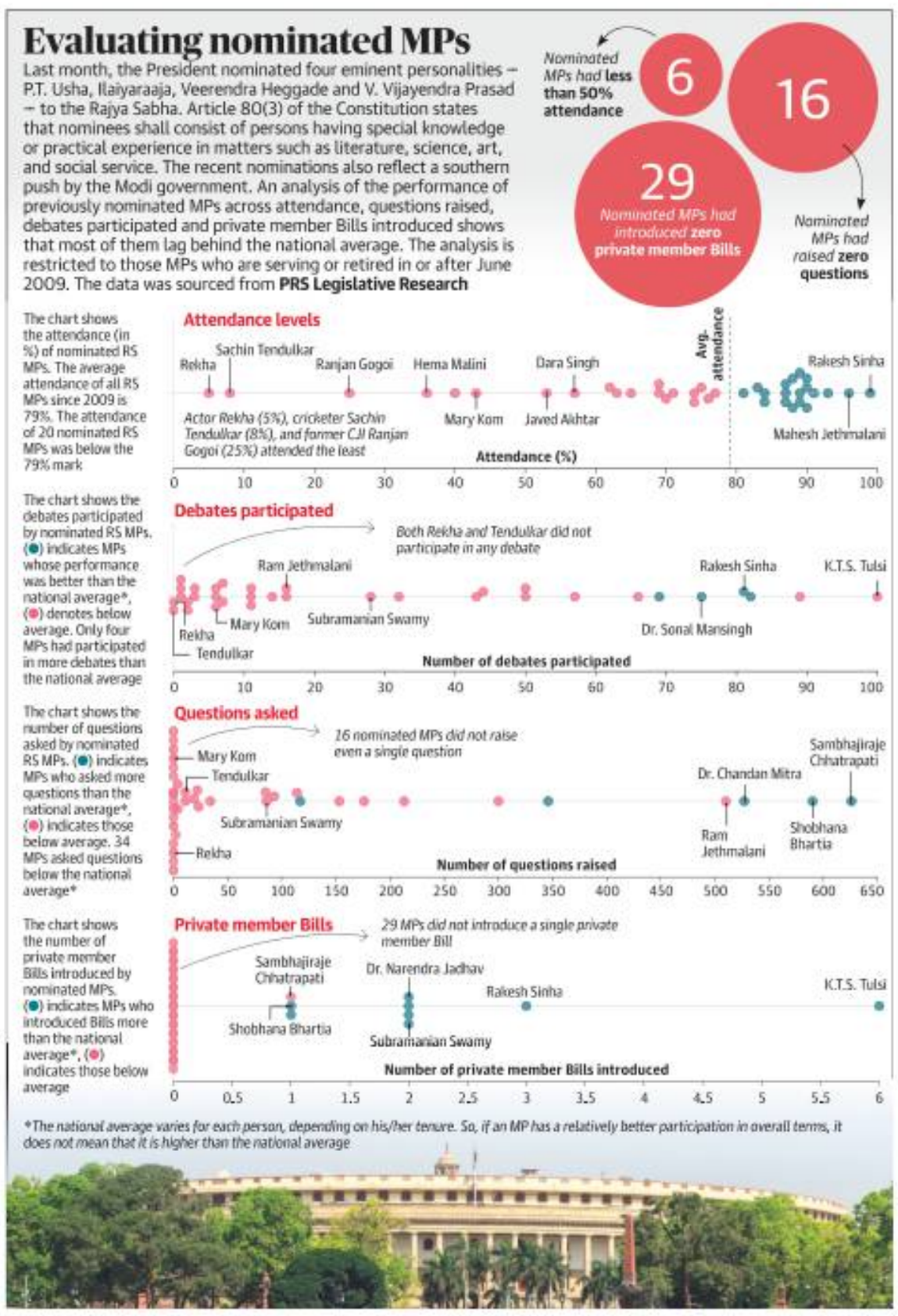
Any delay on the part of the State government in restoring public trust in these institutions could culminate in an all-round economic crisis with disastrous consequences and hit the interests of the State hard.

sudhi.ks@thehindu.co.in

DATA POINT

Evaluating nominated MPs

Last month, the President nominated four eminent personalities – P.T. Usha, Ilaiyaraaja, Veerendra Heggade and V. Vijayendra Prasad – to the Rajya Sabha. Article 80(3) of the Constitution states that nominees shall consist of persons having special knowledge or practical experience in matters such as literature, science, art, and social service. The recent nominations also reflect a southern push by the Modi government. An analysis of the performance of previously nominated MPs across attendance, questions raised, debates participated and private member Bills introduced shows that most of them lag behind the national average. The analysis is restricted to those MPs who are serving or retired in or after June 2009. The data was sourced from **PRS Legislative Research**


Nominated MPs had less than 50% attendance
6
16
29
Nominated MPs had introduced zero private member Bills
Nominated MPs had raised zero questions
The chart shows the attendance (in %) of nominated RS MPs. The average attendance of all RS MPs since 2009 is 79%. The attendance of 20 nominated RS MPs was below the 79% mark
Attendance levels
Rekha
Sachin Tendulkar
Ranjan Gogoi
Hema Malini
Mary Kom
Dara Singh
Javed Akhtar
Avg. attendance
Rakesh Sinha
Mahesh Jethmalani
Actor Rekha (5%), cricketer Sachin Tendulkar (8%), and former CJI Ranjan Gogoi (25%) attended the least
Attendance (%)
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100
The chart shows the debates participated by nominated RS MPs. (●) indicates MPs whose performance was better than the national average*, (●) denotes below average. Only four MPs had participated in more debates than the national average
Debates participated
Both Rekha and Tendulkar did not participate in any debate
Ram Jethmalani
Rakesh Sinha
K.T.S. Tulsi
Rekha
Tendulkar
Mary Kom
Subramanian Swamy
Dr. Sonal Mansingh
Number of debates participated
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100
The chart shows the number of questions asked by nominated RS MPs. (●) indicates MPs who asked more questions than the national average*, (●) indicates those below average. 34 MPs asked questions below the national average*
Questions asked
16 nominated MPs did not raise even a single question
Mary Kom
Tendulkar
Subramanian Swamy
Rekha
Sambhajiraje Chhatrapati
Dr. Chandan Mitra
Ram Jethmalani
Shobhana Bhartia
Number of questions raised
0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 400 450 500 550 600 650
The chart shows the number of private member Bills introduced by nominated MPs. (●) indicates MPs who introduced Bills more than the national average*, (●) indicates those below average
Private member Bills
29 MPs did not introduce a single private member Bill
Sambhajiraje Chhatrapati
Dr. Narendra Jadhav
Rakesh Sinha
K.T.S. Tulsi
Shobhana Bhartia
Subramanian Swamy
Number of private member Bills introduced
0 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5 5.5 6
*The national average varies for each person, depending on his/her tenure. So, if an MP has a relatively better participation in overall terms, it does not mean that it is higher than the national average

The Hindu.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO AUGUST 2, 1972

Protection of labour laws

New Delhi, Aug. 1: The thirty-third report of the Committee on Petitions, presented to the Rajya Sabha to-day had recommended that all employees irrespective of different designations or categories drawing salary up to Rs. 1,600 per month be included in the term "workmen" as defined in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. Legislation already exists where an employee drawing a salary not exceeding Rs. 1,600 per month in any industry has been given protection of labour legislation, namely the Payment of Bonus Act, the report says. The limit of Rs. 1,600, the committee feels, must have been fixed by the Government on some "rational basis keeping in view the fact that all sections of employees drawing a salary of up to Rs. 1,600 per month do need the protection of labour legislation." The committee has made the recommendation while considering a petition presented by Mr. Arjun Arora, a former MP, and two others stating that the junior management and supervisory staff, which includes a number of technical personnel doing supervising duties, in private oil companies in India have no job security and legal protection for safeguarding their interests. The petitioners contended that the junior management and supervisory staff in private oil companies got more than Rs. 500 per month as total enrolments and as such they were not entitled to any protection.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO AUGUST 2, 1922

In Parliament

London, Aug. 1: In the House of Commons yesterday, an amendment to omit the fabric gloves and glove fabrics from the order which imposes 33 and third per cent duty on certain articles from Germany was defeated by 277 votes to 113. 30 Coalition Liberals voted with the Opposition. Sir William Edge, Coalition Liberal Whip, who represents the Lancashire constituency resigned from his position as Whip in order to vote against the order. Sir W. Edge, however, remains a Coalitionist. Replying to a question in the House, Sir Philip Lloyd Greame said that the value of manufactured goods imported into the United Kingdom during the six months ending June 30 totalled 112 million sterling, of which eleven million were of German origin. 24 ships flying the Soviet flag entered British ports during the past year, fifteen of which discharged cargo, principally timber, from Russia and Latvia.

FROM PAGE ONE

Sanjay Raut sent to ED custody for three days

The former Chief Minister also took a swipe at the rebel Sena MLAs led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, remarking that Mr. Raut, unlike the rebel MLAs and MPs, had not bowed before the agencies and the BJP which misused them by defecting or seeking a compromise.

Protest by Sena cadre

The Shiv Sena cadre held protests in support of Mr. Raut and against the BJP in Nashik, Aurangabad and other parts of the State.

Former Maharashtra Minister Aaditya Thackeray, who is on a State-wide tour to reassert the Thackeray faction's hold over the Sena rank and file, said Mr. Raut's arrest was a "political conspiracy" by the BJP to "finish off the Shiv Sena and suppress Maharashtra's voice".

Commenting on the ED's claims of recovering cash from the Sena MP's house and building a case against Mr. Raut based on the retrieval, senior Congressman and Rajya Sabha member Mallikarjun Kharge said: "He [Mr. Raut] runs a party and a paper [Sena mouthpiece]."

GST levies won't burden the poor, says FM

"What the people's expectations were, according to that, we are delivering and trying to reduce inflation. Even today, global trade hasn't reached normalcy, yet we have managed to keep inflation at 7% or below... Now when we are at 7%, and trying to bring it down, yet, we are being told what are you doing for inflation," Ms. Sitharaman noted.

The Minister contrasted this with retail inflation trends under the UPA regime, noting that the pace of price rise was over 9% in 22 out of 28 months and had crossed 10% nine times. "That should also be remembered when we are being asked why we are not bringing it below 7%," she said.

"When questions are constantly based not on facts, facts will have to be reminded. Even now, an Opposition member said inflation existed before COVID also. Yes, inflation existed. Let's not forget - for a small taper tantrum by the U.S. Fed in 2008 led to problems till 2013 that led to India becoming one of the fragile five economies," the Minister said.

Taking on criticism that the GST levies on milk and other items were 'anti-poor', Ms. Sitharaman said the decision was taken by the GST Council with full consensus of all States.

Responding to NCP MP Supriya Sule who said the erstwhile MVA government had written to the Centre against implementing these levies, the Minister said: "No one said anything against it and it was decided [by the Council] to curb leakages without adding a burden on the poor."

"The levy is only on prepackaged and pre-labelled goods, so there is no impact on poor people from this. It must be remembered," the Minister noted.

GST collections jump by 28% on imports

GST Compensation Cess collections were ₹10,920 crore, factoring in ₹995 crore collected on goods imports.

Karnataka, Kerala high

About a dozen States recorded higher revenue growth than the 22% overall rise in revenues from domestic transactions, including Karnataka (45%), Tamil Nadu (34%), Kerala (29%), West Bengal (28%), Haryana (27%), Telangana (26%), and Andhra Pradesh (25%).

By contrast, Gujarat (20%), Uttar Pradesh (18%), Maharashtra and Rajasthan (17%), Madhya Pradesh (12%), and Chhatisgarh (11%), were among the States with slower revenue growth than the national average. Revenues grew just 1% in Odisha and fell by ₹1 crore in Jammu and Kashmir. Tripura and Bihar reported a contraction in revenues by 3% and 1%, respectively, compared with July 2021.

GST collections had hit a record monthly high of ₹1,67,540 crore in April this year, while June 2022's revenues of ₹144,616 crore marked the second highest monthly GST kitty before being overtaken by July's revenues.

While these consistent high collections indicate a recovery from the pandemic's adverse impact, they can also be attributed to inflation and tighter checks and balances implemented by authorities in recent months, said Abhishek Jain, partner (indirect tax) at KPMG in India. "With further rationalisations implemented in GST rates subsequent to the last GST Council meet in June-end, these numbers may further go up in the coming months," Mr. Jain reckoned.

Jio tops as 5G auction nets ₹1.5 lakh crore

In all, bids worth ₹1,50,173 crore were received, he said, adding the government will in the first year get ₹13,365 crore. Barring the 1800 MHz band, for which Reliance Jio and Bharti Airtel engaged in fierce bidding, spectrum in all bands was sold at reserve (base) price, he noted.

The mop-up from the 5G spectrum, capable of offering ultra-high speed mobile internet connectivity, is almost double the ₹77,815 crore worth 4G airwaves sold last year and triple of ₹50,968.37 crore garnered from a 3G auction in 2010.

Reliance Jio was the top bidder, bidding a cumulative ₹88,078 crore for 24,740 MHz of airwaves across five bands capable of offering speeds about 10 times faster than 4G and lag-free connectivity, and can enable billions of connected devices to share data. It also acquired the coveted 700 MHz spectrum that could provide 6-10 km of signal range with one tower and forms a good base for offering fifth generation services, in all 22 circles or zones. Adani group bought spectrum in the 26 GHz band, which is suitable for setting up a private network for end-to-end communication, in six States – Gujarat, Mumbai, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh. Bharti Airtel bought a total of 19,867.8 MHz of spectrum across five bands but none in 700 MHz. Vodafone Idea acquired 6,228 MHz of airwaves. Mr. Vaishnaw said the 600 MHz band, offered for the first time, did not receive any interest.

Solih arrives amid anti-India stir in Maldives

President to discuss strategic ties and infrastructure agreement status with Modi today; he will also meet Murmu

SUHASINI HAIDAR
NEW DELHI

Maldives President Ibrahim 'Ibu' Solih arrived in Delhi for a bilateral visit on Monday, amid rows within his government over ties with India, the Yoga Day attack, and a bitter row with Maldivian Speaker, former President and party colleague Mohammad Nasheed. During his four-day visit, Mr. Solih will also visit Mumbai for two days, and is expected to focus on enhancing trade and connectivity between the two countries.

On Tuesday, he will meet with Prime Minister Narendra Modi for bilateral talks, discuss strategic ties, and the status of infrastructure agreements between them, and sign a number of MoUs (Memorandum of Understanding), officials said.

Ahead of the meetings on Tuesday, where Mr. Solih will become the first visiting head of state to meet President Droupadi Murmu, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar called on Mr. Solih. "Our Neighbourhood First and Maldives' India First policies are complementary. They take our special partnership forward," Mr. Jaishankar tweeted. "Both sides will celebrate the milestones, review existing projects, and set new targets for a stronger India-Maldives partnership," said Maldivian Foreign Minister Abdulla Shahid in a statement.

The infrastructure projects include the Greater Male Connectivity Project of bridges connecting the capital city to neighbouring islands, to be built by Indian company Afcon with the help of a $400-million Line of Credit and a $100-million grant from India, along with other projects under India's $1.4-billion assistance announced during Mr. Solih's last visit to India in December 2018.

Strong bond: Maldives President Ibrahim Solih with PM Narendra Modi in New Delhi in December 2018. • FILE PHOTO

However, in contrast to the last visit, which came right after his Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP) won a landslide verdict, with 65 of the 87 seats in the Majlis or parliament, Mr. Solih's visit to Delhi comes amid a number of controversies involving a tricky balance between his erstwhile friend Mr. Nasheed, as well the religious extremist parties in his ruling coalition.

The political tussle with Mr. Nasheed could turn into a major rift this week, as members of the ruling party loyal to Mr. Solih are expected to submit a motion of no-confidence against the Speaker, and have begun to collect signatures of the 22 members of the Majlis (Parliament) required to make the submission. The move follows a public protest by Mr. Nasheed and his supporters over the arrest of his brother and attorney, Ahmed Nazim Abdul Sattar. Mr. Sattar was amongst three men accused of homosexual acts, in what Mr. Nasheed called a "selective" prosecution "motivated to appease hardline extremists in the coalition", referring to the right-wing Islamic conservative Adhaalath Party. In a statement last week, the party, whose leader holds the Home Ministry portfolio, publicly stated its opposition to Yoga events that were held by the Indian embassy for Maldives citizens, calling it "un-Islamic", and had earlier also pushed for a strong official reaction to the Prophet controversy in India.

Speaking to *The Hindu* on Monday, Mr. Nasheed said the case against his brother, as well as the no-confidence vote would only benefit radical elements in the country as well as the Opposition parties running the "India Out" campaign. "We founded the MDP to stand for liberal, inclusive values, and my worry is that the people who will really gain from ousting me, and splitting the party are those who want to push Maldives in a xenophobic and religiously radical direction, and also those who are behind the "India out" campaign," he said. While South Block made no comment on the issues between the two leaders, it has good ties with both, and the growing rift is viewed with some concern in New Delhi.

Close friends

Relations between President Solih and former President Nasheed go back nearly 50 years, as the two men grew up as friends. In 2018, Mr. Nasheed stepped aside as MDP candidate for Mr. Solih due to cases against him by the previous government.

'BJP is taking country towards dictatorship'

Uddhav slams comments by Nadda

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE
PUNE

Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray on Monday lashed out at BJP national president J.P. Nadda for his statement that all regional parties, including the Shiv Sena in Maharashtra, would be "decimated" and only the BJP would remain in future.

Uddhav Thackeray

Speaking to reporters in Mumbai following the arrest of his confidant and MP Sanjay Raut, Mr. Thackeray said the country, under the BJP, was lurching towards "a Hitlerian dictatorship". He said the BJP's ploy to finish off regional parties by crushing regional pride was "extremely alarming".

"Is there any democracy in Mr. Nadda's speech that only their party [the BJP] will remain while all other parties in the country will perish. When you unleash agencies like the Enforcement Directorate (ED), the Income Tax Department and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) against dissenters in Opposition parties, then where is the democracy?" he said.

At a political event in Bihar, Mr. Nadda had said that in the times to come, "only an ideology-driven party like the BJP will survive while others ruled by families will perish".

Criticising dynastic politics in the south as well as in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, Mr. Nadda said that the Shiv Sena was on the path to extinction in Maharashtra.

"This is a statement which is pushing the country towards a one-party dictatorship... Just you [the BJP] try to finish the Sena in Maharashtra. They [the BJP] want to pit Maharashtrians against non-Maharashtrians," Mr. Thackeray said.

Mamata set to reshuffle Bengal Cabinet tomorrow

Seven new districts to be formed in the State, says CM

SHIV SAHAY SINGH
KOLKATA

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday said there will be a Cabinet reshuffle on Wednesday. She said five or six new faces would to be inducted in the Cabinet, while some Ministers would be moved out and given responsibility in the Trinamool Congress.

"We have to reshuffle the Cabinet because senior leader Subrata Mukherjee and Sadhan Pande have passed away and Partha Chatterjee is in prison," Ms. Banerjee said. She refuted speculation that she would dissolve the entire Cabinet and a fresh one would be sworn in.

The Chief Minister said that after the passing of two senior Ministers and the arrest of Mr. Chatterjee, she was in charge of most of the departments held by them. "We have to divide the work," she said.

The move comes after the arrest of Partha Chatterjee, who was in charge of four key departments. Mr. Chatterjee, who was arrested on July 23 in the School Service Commission (SSC) recruitment scam, held the crucial departments of Industries and Commerce, Parliamentary Affairs, among others. Mr. Mukherjee, who passed away last year, was in charge of the Panchayat Department and Mr. Pande, who passed away in February 2022, was in charge of the Consumer Affairs Department.

Mamata Banerjee.

The protests over the SSC scam continued on Monday with job aspirants staging demonstrations in various parts of Kolkata.

Seven new districts

The government has also decided to form seven new districts in the State, taking the total to 30. The decision was taken at a meeting of the Cabinet during the day.

The Chief Minister said two new districts would be carved out of North 24 Parganas – Ichamati and Basirhat. In South 24 Parganas, Sundarbans would be a new district.

Jangipur and Behrampore would be carved out of Murshidabad, while Bishnupur and Ranaghat would be carved out of Bankura and Nadia districts, respectively.

Ms. Banerjee told Ministers not to indulge in any act that would be detrimental to the image of the party.

In another development, a number of district presidents and district chairmen of the Trinamool Congress were changed and new faces were given responsibility.

5.83 crore I-T returns filed till July 31

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

A record 72.42 lakh income tax returns were filed on the last day of such filing on July 31, taking the cumulative returns to 5.83 crore, near to the same levels of last year. While initially income tax return (ITR) filing was slow, the pace picked up as the deadline neared.

"The surge of filing ITRs peaked on July 31, 2022 (due date for salaried taxpayers and other non-tax audit cases) with over 72.42 lakh ITRs being filed on a single day," an official statement said.

The total ITRs filed till July 31, 2022 for assessment year 22-23 was about 5.83 crore, it said. Last fiscal (2020-21), about 5.89 crore ITRs (Income Tax Returns) were filed by the extended due date of December 31, 2021. Over the past two financial years, the government had extended the deadline for filing ITRs to ease compliance for taxpayers battling the COVID-19 pandemic. But this year the deadline was not extended by even by a day.

IAF to take part in 'Pitch Black' in Australia

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Continuing the series of military exercises with countries in the Indo-Pacific, the Indian Air Force (IAF) will join 16 other nations, including Quad partners, later this month for Exercise Pitch Black, the biennial exercise hosted by the Australian Air Force.

About 100 aircraft and 2,500 military personnel from 17 nations will arrive in the Northern Territory in two weeks to commence Exercise Pitch Black 2022, the Australian Ministry of Defence said in a statement.

"With a four-year hiatus since the last Pitch Black due to the global pandemic, this year's exercise will see a return of the combined force to Australian skies, enhancing interoperability and strengthening relationships," it added.

Group Captain Peter Wood, PBK22 Director Engagement, said, "International participation in Ex Pitch Black, from within the Indo-Pacific region and further abroad, provides all nations' personnel with experience in working with aircraft, systems and work practices, in northern Australia's unique environment, that would otherwise be unfamiliar."

The 2020 edition of the exercise was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Opposition likely to move review petition against PMLA verdict

It's a collective decision, says CPI(M)'s Sitaram Yechury

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Opposition has collectively decided to move a review petition in the Supreme Court against its recent verdict upholding the amendments to the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). The Opposition's demand will be to nullify the amendments to the Act made in 2019 through the money Bill route.

Briefing reporters after the two-day Central Committee meeting of the CPI(M) here on Monday, general secretary Sitaram Yechury said the Opposition parties would jointly take up the issue with the Supreme Court. "It is a collective decision by the Opposition," he said.

A joint statement of the Opposition on the matter is expected on Tuesday.

Sitaram Yechury

The CPI(M) leader said the ED and the CBI were increasingly functioning as a political arm of the Modi government in destabilising the democratically elected State governments and targeting Opposition leaders.

"The recent judgment of the Supreme Court Bench headed by a judge who retired shortly thereafter, upheld all the 2019 amendments to the PMLA lethally arming the ED further. This is a grievous assault on democracy," he added. He said the Modi government was carrying out unprecedented assaults on Parliament with its refusal to discuss any substantial motion on burning people's issues like price rise and unemployment.

He also condemned the manner in which activist Teesta Setalvad was arrested. "This was facilitated by a SC verdict by a Bench headed, again, by the same judge," Mr. Yechury said.

He said the Centre should tax the super rich to address the economic situation of the country.

He said the listed companies in Bombay Stock Exchange made huge profits of about ₹7 lakh crore during the pandemic, which was the highest in a decade.

Venkaiah expunges FM's remarks against Sonia

Cong. had complained to RS Chairman

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Rajya Sabha Chairman M. Venkaiah Naidu on Monday expunged the remarks made by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman against Congress president Sonia Gandhi.

Ms. Sitharaman had made references to Ms. Gandhi in the Rajya Sabha on July 28 while raising objections against the statement allegedly made against President Droupadi Murmu by Congress leader in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury.

Ms. Sitharaman had demanded that Ms. Gandhi apologise for Mr. Chowdhury's remarks.

The Congress had protested against Ms. Sitharaman's remarks and lodged a complaint with Mr. Naidu. Leader of the Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge had sent a letter to Mr. Naidu and urged him to expunge the remarks on Ms. Gandhi.

"As the members of the Press Gallery are aware, the Chair was pleased to direct expunction of a certain portion of the proceedings of Rajya Sabha dated 28-07-2022 at about 11:05 a.m.," an official order from the Rajya Sabha Secretariat said. Opposition leaders had raised the matter with Mr. Naidu at a meeting in his chamber.

Mr. Kharge said that since Ms. Gandhi was a member of the Lok Sabha, no reference could be made to her in the Rajya Sabha.

Mr. Naidu had held separate meetings with Mr. Kharge and senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh and also with Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi and Leader of the House Piyush Goyal to resolve the situation.

Bill for Gati Shakti University introduced in Lok Sabha

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Monday introduced the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, which seeks to convert the National Rail and Transportation Institute (NRTI), a deemed-to-be university, into the Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya, an autonomous Central university.

The Bill seeks to expand the scope of the university from beyond just the Railways to cover the entire transport sector and support growth and modernisation in the field. The new university, once the Bill clears both Houses of Parliament, will be funded and administered by the Ministry of Railways.

"The Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2022 seeks to amend the Central Universities Act, 2009, *inter alia*, to provide for the establishment of Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya as a body corporate under the said Act," Mr. Pradhan said in the 'Statement of Objects and Reasons' of the Bill.

He said the establishment of the Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya would address the need for talent in the strategically important and expanding transportation sector and meet the demand for trained talent to fuel the growth and expansion of the sector. "The proposed university will reverse brain drain and create critical capability and capacity by developing master's and doctoral degrees in transportation, go a long way in making the nation self-reliant in the transportation sector through its programmes for skilling and digitising India," Mr. Pradhan said.

He said the university would carry out critically-needed research and development by creating innovative technologies to encourage local manufacturing and substitute the imports of expensive technology, equipment and products.

Har Ghar Tiranga – taking the National Flag into homes

The flag is not just a vision for the future but also reflects the values of the rich and illustrious past of India

G. KISHAN REDDY

In the Mahabharata, after Duryodhana is vanquished and the Kurukshetra war concludes, Lord Krishna leads Arjuna on his chariot to a secluded part of the battlefield. He then frees the horses and pushes Arjuna from the chariot. Just then, Lord Hanuman, residing in the flag on top of Arjuna's chariot, vanishes leaving a bare cloth fluttering. The chariot explodes leaving behind embers. Lord Krishna explains to Arjuna that the force of divine weapons used by Bheeshma, Drona and Karna would have disintegrated the chariot a long time ago. It was only Lord Hanuman's presence on the flag of the chariot that shielded him.

Since the dawn of civilisation, flags have had a special place as a symbol of belonging and protection and to rally people together.

Stretching back to times immemorial, flags have been a part of the Indian tradition, symbolising glory and dharma. From the *Seval Kodi* held high by Kartikeya, the Surya flag carried by Lord Ramachandra in his quest to Lanka, King Yudhishtir's Golden Moon flag of the Treta Yuga to the *Patita pavana bana* mysteriously flying in the opposite direction of the wind at the Jagannath Temple, Puri, flags have been a part of our cultural heritage in all four yugas. Similarly, the *Nishan Sahib* that depicts the temporal (Miri) and the spiritual (piri) has a special place in the heart of every practising Sikh. Indeed, Bharatvarsha has a rich history and tradition of using flags and symbols throughout the ages in various forms.

Therefore, it is not surprising when this tradition is continued while building India as a modern nation state, drawing from her civilisational ethos.

The flag, therefore, is not just a vision for the future, but the values and foundations of our rich and illustrious past.

On July 22, 1947, the Constituent Assembly adopted our National Flag. The flag that was finally chosen underwent several changes since it was originally designed by Pingali Venkayya in 1923.

The Centre has taken steps to ensure the supply of flags across the country.

Venkayya was not just the architect of the flag but also a freedom fighter. He was known as *Jhanda Venkayya* as he published a book in 1916 on 30 designs for the Indian flag. August 2 marks his 146th birth anniversary and citizens across this country will now know more of his contributions in designing the flag that we have today.

Since Independence, our relationship with the flag had been more formal and institutional rather than personal. The *Har Ghar Tiranga* campaign launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi aims to change this forever.

The initiative aims to encourage people to bring our flag into our homes and hoist it to mark the 75th year of India's Independence.

Community spirit

The idea behind the initiative is to invoke a sense of ownership in the people and to celebrate *Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav* in the spirit of *Jan Bhagidari* (community participation).

The campaign aims to have citizens hoisting our National Flag in their homes between August 13 and 15. Various events involving people from all walks of life will be organised at various locations connected with the freedom struggle. This will allow the new generation to discover the many threads of our freedom struggle, while older generations and communities reconnect to the events that led to a free India.

As this is a ground-up initiative, the role of the government has been that of a facilitator. An initiative of such magnitude requires meticulous planning and execution.

First, the Flag Code was changed to make the flag more accessible and thus give every Indian the unique opportunity to hoist the flag at their homes.

Subsequently, the government has taken various steps to ensure the supply of flags across the country. Flags are now available in all post offices in the country. State governments have tied up with various stakeholders for the supply of flags. The flag will be available on the government's e-market marketplace (GEM) portal, on e-commerce portals, and with various self-help groups (SHGs).

Finding resonance

Since its launch, the *Har Ghar Tiranga* campaign has been resonating across India. This is not only because of the inherent patriotism embedded in every Indian but also because we feel that the nation is heading in the right direction. Today, when the youth of this nation see our flag, they see hope for a brighter tomorrow. A mother sees opportunities for herself and her family. The soldiers see 135 crore Indians saluting their bravery and praying for their well-being. A civil servant sees in the flag a commitment to implement the vision of the government as enshrined in the Constitution.

On July 22, 1947, as part of the resolution on the flag in the Constituent Assembly, Sarojini Naidu said: "Remember, under this flag, there is no prince and there is no peasant, there is no rich and there is no poor. There is no privilege; there is only duty and responsibility and sacrifice. Whether we be Hindus or Muslims, Christians, Sikhs or Zoroastrians and others, our Mother India has one undivided heart and one indivisible spirit. Men and women of reborn India, rise and salute this flag. I bid you, rise and salute the flag."

As we hoist the flag as a part of the *Har Ghar Tiranga* initiative, these very thoughts will be echoing in every Indian's hearts.

(G. Kishan Reddy is Minister of Culture, Tourism and Development of Northeastern Region and represents the Secunderabad Lok Sabha constituency)

Suspension of Cong. MPs revoked

Lok Sabha Speaker asks Opposition not to bring placards into the House

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Monday revoked the suspension of four Congress members after seeking an assurance from the Opposition that the MPs will not bring placards to the House.

The revocation of suspension, a week after the four were suspended for "unruly" behaviour, paved the way for the resumption of normal business as the Lower House took up a short discussion on inflation.

Manickam Tagore, Ramya Haridas, T.N. Prathapan and S. Jothimani were suspended on July 26 for the rest of the Monsoon Session for carrying placards and raising slogans inside the Well of the Lok Sabha.

Before the resumption of the House at 2 p.m., Mr. Birla convened a meeting of all the floor leaders in his chamber to discuss the matter and end the stalemate. When the House resumed after lunch, the Speaker said he was hurt by the recent incidents, and urged members to work towards upholding the dignity of the House.

Clear stand: Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla. • SANSAD TV/PTI

"There should be a consensus that we do not get placards in the House. I will urge all political parties not to bring placards to the House. I am giving a final warning, if anyone gets placards to the House, I will neither listen to the government nor the Opposition and will take action," Mr. Birla told the House.

The Congress leader in the Lok Sabha, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, said the Opposition had to raise some issues vociferously in the House, and at times, resort to protests if the government did not give it a patient hearing. The Congress leader suggested that the Speaker call a meeting of the General Purposes Committee to decide on the modes of protests in the House.

Assuring the Speaker that he would convey the views expressed by him to the suspended members, Mr. Chowdhury said it was not the intention of the Opposition to hurt the Chair.

"I am not able to understand why Lok Sabha productivity was lost for the past two weeks," Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said.

India shares concern over Chinese ship

The scheduled visit of vessel to Sri Lanka discussed with Ranil Wickremesinghe

MEERA SRINIVASAN
COLOMBO

India has raised the scheduled visit of a Chinese satellite vessel to a Sri Lankan port with President Ranil Wickremesinghe, after the Ministry of Defence in Colombo confirmed the ship's arrival, despite New Delhi giving a "clear message" on its concerns.

While there is no official statement so far from either the Indian mission in Colombo, or the President's office in this regard, the matter "was raised at the highest level by the Indian side," an official source in Colombo, familiar with the development, told *The Hindu*.

Following media reports last week of *Yuan Wang 5* – a Chinese vessel involved in space and satellite tracking – calling at Sri Lanka's southern Hambantota Port, the Ministry of Defence denied such a vessel was arriving. However, taking back its denial within days, the Ministry said last weekend that it had cleared the vessel's entry into the Chinese-built Hambantota Port, where it would dock from August 11 to 17. The confirmation not only sparked serious concern in New Delhi, but also raised eyebrows in Colombo too, coming two days after Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Arindam Bagchi's media remarks that India "carefully monitors any development having a bearing on its security and economic interests". China has defended the ship's visit and asked "relevant parties" to "refrain from interfering" with its "legitimate maritime activities."

> **India and China are dependable friends and we certainly don't need to change that**
>
> HARSHA DE SILVA
> Sri Lankan MP

Members of Sri Lanka's political opposition on Monday commented on the vessel's scheduled arrival, and urged the government not to "accentuate" India's strategic concerns, especially at a time when Colombo is counting on urgent economic assistance from both New Delhi and Beijing to tide over the island's economic crisis.

Referring to a report in the local *Daily Mirror*, Opposition parliamentarian Harsha de Silva said in a tweet on Monday: "I fervently hope the 'highest level' (as mentioned) will resolve this before getting out of hand. India and China are dependable friends and we certainly don't need to change that. Specially now when we desperately need both to help us."

The Opposition Tamil National Alliance, too, weighed in on the development. "Chinese spacecraft tracking ship Yuanwang-5 entering the Hambantota harbour on 11 August has again given rise to tensions in the region. We do not take sides with regard to power struggles between other countries. But we have also consistently stated that China's military presence in the Indian ocean would give India a legitimate Defence concern and that SL should not accentuate that by providing space for Chinese military presence in SL," the Alliance tweeted.

Opposition slams Centre in Lok Sabha over price rise and GST

Trinamool MP bites into a raw brinjal to highlight problem

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

In a dramatic twist to the debate on price rise in the Lok Sabha on Monday, Trinamool Congress MP Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar bit into a raw brinjal to ask if the Narendra Modi government was encouraging people to consume raw food as cooking-gas cylinders were no longer affordable to the common man.

Initiating a debate on the issue of price rise in the House, Congress member Manish Tewari said the Centre's policies had hit 25 crore households in the country hard and widened the divide between the rich and the poor.

BJP leader and former Minister of State for Finance Jayant Sinha said there was no inflation, and the Opposition had been looking for it but was unable to find it.

Biju Janata Dal (BJD) leader Pinaki Misra raised the issue of high net worth individuals giving up Indian citizenship, and asked Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to look at the aspect of such people being harassed by Central agencies such as the Enforcement Directorate, Central Bureau of Investigation and Central Board of Direct Taxes.

Referring to the recent recovery of "mountains of cash" from individuals, Mr. Misra argued that such recoveries only proved that cash was evading the tax system.

Former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi sat in the House for a few hours to listen to the debate that started in the post-lunch session.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Tewari alleged that the five pillars of the economy – savings, investment, production, consumption and employment – had been blown away by the wrong policies of the Union government.

Full of beans: Trinamool MP Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar bites into a brinjal in the Lok Sabha on Monday. • SANSAD TV/PTI

"During the UPA [United Progressive Alliance] regime, 27 crore people were brought above the poverty line. Then it was learnt from a report, which was made public in 2021, that as many as 23 crore people are once again below the poverty line," he said, adding that 77% of the country's wealth is in the hands of 1% of the population.

Wealth inequities

He said the wealth of the 92 richest persons in India put together was equal to the wealth of 55 crore Indians. The number of billionaires in India had increased from 100 to 142 in these years.

The Congress leader argued that the economy had started weakening with the government's decision to demonetise high-value currency notes on November 8, 2016; then the imposition of Goods and Services Tax (GST) hit nearly 2.3 lakh small industries.

Slamming the government over the GST hike, Mr. Tewari said, "You have increased the GST on flour, curd, *paneer*, pencil and sharpener. You did not spare even children."

Hitting out at the government over the rise in fuel prices, the Congress leader said the Centre collected ₹27 lakh crore through "tax, excise duty and dividend" in the petroleum sector to swell its coffers.

Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam MP Kanimozhi, who spoke in Tamil, referred to a viral post on social media about a five-year-girl from Uttar Pradesh, Kriti Dubey, writing to the Prime Minister about the increase in the price of pencils, erasers and Maggi (a noodles brand) because of the increase in GST.

Nishikant Dubey of the BJP said the Prime Minister was providing free food to 80 crore poor people, and asked, "Shouldn't the country be grateful to the Prime Minister?" He said fuel prices were high because of oil bonds floated by the UPA government, which the NDA government was paying now.

Calling Mr. Dubey's speech a history lesson, Supriya Sule of the Nationalist Congress Party said the Modi government has been in power for eight years now and should stop blaming previous governments.

RS passes two Bills amid stir over arrest of Sanjay Raut

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Rajya Sabha on Monday passed the Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Amendment Bill and the Indian Antarctic Bill amid disruptions over the arrest of Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut. The amendments moved by the Opposition members to both the Bills were defeated after a voice vote and Vice-Chairman Bhuvaneshwar Kalita did not allow the demand for a division on the ground that the Opposition members were protesting from the Well of the House.

The Opposition members accused the government of misusing probe agencies such as the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

As soon as the House assembled at 11 a.m., Shiv Sena's Anil Desai trooped into the Well to protest against Mr. Raut's arrest. Chairman M. Venkaiah Naidu denied an audience to the member and adjourned the House till noon. "That has nothing to do with the House. ... You are harming interest of others. You cannot use the House," Mr. Naidu said.

At 2 p.m., the House took up the Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Amendment Bill and soon after that the Indian Antarctic Bill was also taken up. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said all members recognise that terrorism was a serious threat and so were weapons of mass destruction. He said amendments were necessitated as the current law covered only trading and not financing of weapons of mass destruction.

BHARAT COKING COAL LIMITED
A Mini Ratna Company
(A subsidiary of Coal India Limited)

NOTICE

All the tenders* issued by Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of BCCL **www.bcclweb.in**, Coal India Limited (CIL) e-procurement portal https://coalindiatenders.nic.in and Central Public Procurement Portal https://eprocure.gov.in. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal https://gem.gov.in.

*This is applicable to all Open (Domestic / Global) Tenders issued through e-procurement portal of CIL.

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT PRASARAN NIGAM LIMITED
NIB No. 07, 08 & 09 (2022-23)

Tenders are invited from reputed contractors registered in appropriate class RRVPNL and A or AA class in Central/ State Govt. department & their undertaking and registered in GST department for the bid S.No. 01 to 15 of NIB no. 07, S. No. 01 to 17 of NIB No. 08 & S.No. 01 to 02 of NIB no. 09 under Executive Engineer (Civil) RRVPNL, Kota/Sawaimadhopur & Hindaun. All details of above NIB are available on website **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, www.rvpn.co.in & http://sppp.raj.nic.in.**
S.No. wise UBN No.
VPN2223SLOB00783, to VPN2223SLOB00792, VPN2223SSOB00782, VPN2223SSOB00793, VPN2223SSOB00794, VPN2223SLOB00818, VPN2223SSOB00819
VPN2223SSOB00796 to VPN2223SSOB00799, VPN2223SSOB00801 to VPN2223SSOB00804, VPN2223SSOB00806, VPN2223SSOB00807, VPN2223SSOB00809 to VPN2223SSOB00817
RRVPN/TR-5530/2022
Raj./Samvad/C/22/5760
Superintending Engineer (Civil) Kota

GUJARAT METRO RAIL CORPORATION (GMRC) LIMITED
(SPV of Govt. of India and Govt. of Gujarat)
Block No.1, First Floor, Karmayogi Bhavan, Sector 10/A, Gandhinagar: 382010, Gujarat. (CIN): U60200GJ2010SGC059407

TENDER NOTIFICATION No.: GMRC/DCD&BD/MP-L3R/2022
Dated : 02.08.2022

Tender Name	Tender Fees
E-Tendering for **"Design, Manufacture, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of two numbers each of Electric Bogie Tractors, Electric Shunter and Battery Powered Shunting Locomotive for Surat Metro Rail Project" as Lot I and Lot II***	**INR 25,000/- For Lot I or INR 25,000/- For Lot II or INR 25,000/- For Lot I and Lot II combined.**

(*Lot I - Design, Manufacture, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of two numbers of Electric Bogie Tractors and two numbers of Electric Shunter for Surat Metro Rail Project
Lot II - "Design, Manufacture, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of two numbers of Battery Powered Shunting Locomotive for Surat Metro Rail Project.
Bidder may participate for Lot I or Lot II or Lot I and Lot II combined.)
Interested Tenderers are requested to visit **https://gmrc.nprocure.com** for eligibility criteria, applying/ downloading the E-Tender and for other details. **Last date and time for Bid Submissions of E-Tender is till 15:00 Hrs on 16.09.2022.**
Any alterations in Eligibility Criteria cum Qualification Requirements, and terms of the Tender Document, or any amendment to the Tender Document, etc., will be uploaded on **https://gmrc.nprocure.com** and GMRC's Website **www.gujaratmetrorail.com** without any obligation or press notification or other proclamation.

Sd/-
Managing Director,
GMRC, Gandhinagar

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LIMITED
CIN– U40102RJ2000SGC016484 (A Govt. of Rajasthan Undertaking)
Suratgarh Super Critical Thermal Power Project, Suratgarh-335805
E-TENDER TN-121(RVU2223GLOB00920)
E-tenders are invited for Supply of Pipe in Pipe for Ash Handling System. Tender details are available on websites http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in (for e-tender), www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvunl & www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in
Raj./Samvad/C/22/5766 RVUN/PR-3707 **Chief Engineer (STPS-SC)**

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
TRIVANDRUM (WORKS BRANCH)
E-TENDER NOTICE NO: V/W/TVC/16/2022 DATED: 29.07.2022
Divisional Railway Manager/Works Branch/Trivandrum Division, Trivandrum-14 for and on behalf of the President of India invites **ONLINE** tenders for the following works as per tender notice given in our e-tender portal **www.ireps.gov.in** The tenderer(s)/contractor(s) to apply for e-tender for works in Trivandrum Division, need to get enrolled in the e-tender portal **www.ireps.gov.in** and only online tenders will be accepted.

Sl. No	Description	Approx. value ₹ in lakh)	Earnest Money Deposit ₹	Period of completion in months
1.	(a) Trivandrum Division - Complete track renewal (p) for a length of 2.925 Km, Through rail renewal (P) for a length of 0.505 Km. (Ernakulam -Kayamkulam Section - 1.17 Km., Kayamkulam - Trivandrum - Section - 1.910 KM DN, Trivandrum - Nagercoil - 0.35 km) with 60kg rails/PSC sleepers.	113.05	206500	TWELVE
2.	(a) PB 787/2021-22-Trivandrum Division - (a) Complete track renewal (p) for a length of 2.423 Km. (Shoranur - Ernakulam Section - 1.243 Km - DN, Shoranur - Ernakulam - Section - 1.180 Km UP) with 60kg rails/PSC sleepers. (b) Ernakulam Trip shed - Through sleeper renewal (P) for a length of 0.5 Km with new PSC sleepers	140.21	220100	TWELVE
3.	Supply and installation of track based way side gauge face rail lubricators electronic type at Assistant Divisional Engineer / Nagercoil & Thiruvananthapuram Sections.	108.80	204400	TWELVE
4.	Supply and installation of track based way side gauge face rail lubricators electronic type at Assistant Divisional Engineer / Kollam Section.	96.00	192000	TWELVE
5.	TTR (TWS+CMSC)-19 sets (1 in 12 - 6 sets, 1 in 8.5 - 13 sets.), TTR (CS+CMSC) - 12 sets (1 in 8.5 - 10 sets, 1 in 12 - 2 sets) and TTR(DS) - 8 sets in Sr. Divisional Engineer/ North Jurisdiction	188.79	244400	TWELVE
6.	Trivandrum Division - TTR (CS+CMSC) - 46 sets (1 in 12 - 27 sets, 1 in 8.5 - 19 sets) and TTR(DS) - 1 set in Assistant Divisional Engineer/Quilon & Trivandrum Sections.	308.49	304300	EIGHTEEN
7.	TTR (CS+CMSC)-29 sets (1 in 16 - 1 set, 1 in 12 - 22 sets, 1 in 8.5 - 6 sets) TTR(DS)-4 sets and Renewal of sets - 9 sets in Assistant Divisional Engineer/Nagercoil Jurisdiction	187.68	243900	EIGHTEEN
8.	Mavelikkara P.way section - Through Sleeper Renewal (P) for a length of 10.464 Km by using SQRS Machine.	389.31	344700	TWELVE
9.	Divisional Engineer/South Jurisdiction: Providing Water connections at LCs.	55.82	111600	SIX
10.	Trivandrum Division-Supply and installation of track based way side gauge face rail lubricators electronic type at Assistant Divisional Engineer/Ernakulam Section.	166.40	233200	TWELVE
11.	Trivandrum Division-Supply and installation of track based way side gauge face rail lubricators electronic type at Sr. Section Engineer/P. Way/Aluva Section.	70.40	140800	TWELVE
12.	Trivandrum Division-Supply and installation of track based way side gauge face rail lubricators electronic type at Sr. Section Engineer/P. Way/Chalakudi Section.	204.80	252400	TWELVE
13.	Trivandrum Division-Supply and installation of track based way side gauge face rail lubricators electronic type at Sr. Section Engineer/P. Way/Thrissur Section.	160.00	230000	TWELVE
14.	Improvements to gate lodges and water connections at LCs in ADEN/ERS sub division	93.59	187200	SIX

Tender Closing Date and Time : **Sl. No. 1 to 7 : 22.08.2022 at 15.00 Hrs. Sl. No. 8 to 14 : 29.08.2022 at 15.00 Hrs.**
Details of approximate value of tender, EMD & location are given on the e-portal **www.ireps.gov.in** For Details of bid submission, please refer website portal **www.ireps.gov.in**

SENIOR DIVISIONAL ENGINEER/ CO-ORDINATION, TRIVANDRUM-14
Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

Centre constitutes task force to monitor monkeypox situation

It will provide guidance on expansion of diagnostic facilities and vaccination

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

In the wake of the detection of monkeypox cases in India, the Union government has constituted a task force to monitor and provide guidance on the expansion of diagnostic facilities and to explore vaccination against the infection in the country.

The decision was taken during a meeting attended by senior officials recently.

The team will be headed by V.K. Paul, member (Health), NITI Aayog. India has reported six confirmed cases of monkeypox so far – four in Kerala and two in Delhi.

Last week, a youth in Kerala who had symptoms of monkeypox died, following which State Health Minister Veena George had initiated a high-level inquiry.

Viral load: India has so far reported six cases of monkeypox, including four in Delhi. • G. RAMAKRISHNA

Don't panic

Dr. Paul earlier reassured the public that there was no need for panic as the government had taken significant measures to keep the disease in check.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), more than 18,000 cases have been reported from 78 countries.

"The monkeypox outbreak can be stopped if countries, communities and individuals inform themselves, take the risks seriously, and take the steps needed to stop transmission and protect vulnerable groups," Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, WHO, had said last week.

Nigerian man tests positive for monkeypox

NEW DELHI

A 35-year-old Nigerian man, living in Delhi and with no recent history of foreign travel, has tested positive for monkeypox, taking the total number of infected people in the country to six, official sources said on Monday. He is the second person in Delhi to test positive for the infection. PTI

'Need right strategies in right groups'

WHO official calls for risk communication, community engagement against monkeypox

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN
NEW DELHI

The spread of monkeypox can be curtailed with the right strategies in the right groups, without creating stigma and discrimination, Poonam Khetrapal Singh, Regional Director, Southeast Asia, World Health Organization (WHO), says.

She told *The Hindu* that the risk of monkeypox in the southeast Asia region was currently assessed as moderate.

"However, in view of the complexities and uncertainties associated with this multi-country public health event, the WHO announced the ongoing monkeypox transmission as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), the highest level of global public health alert, for countries to implement a coordinated response, with the goals of stopping human-to-human transmission and protecting the vulnerable groups," Dr. Singh cautioned.

Dr. Singh further said that based on the current evidence it could be said that the monkeypox virus was self-limiting, mortality was low, and the cases were concentrated mostly among men who have sex with men.

"For countries with recently imported cases of monkeypox, WHO recommends implementing a coordinated response to stop human-to-human transmission of monkeypox virus, prioritising communities at high risk of exposure. Targeted risk communication and community engagement, case detection, supported isolation of cases and treatment and contact tracing, are among the key recommendations," Dr. Singh added.

Poonam Khetrapal Singh

"Intensifying surveillance, strengthening laboratory capacity and genomic sequencing capacity are important for coordinated response to monkeypox," she noted.

Better prepared

Speaking about the extensive travel that the world has opened up to with the COVID-related travel restrictions being lifted, Dr. Singh admitted that South East Asia, with a very high human density, added to the unique challenges of transmissibility.

Stating that the testing capacities for monkeypox globally and in the region were limited but were being strengthened, Dr. Singh said that the National Institute of Virology, Pune, was one of the four referral laboratories for countries across WHO South-East Asia region.

Highlighting how during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, countries had built, strengthened, and demonstrated capacities to overcome health emergencies, she said that countries were now better prepared to respond to such emergencies.

Ex-SC judge to mediate Lalit Modi dispute

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday appointed its former judge Justice R.V. Raveendran as mediator to settle a family property dispute between businessman and former IPL head Lalit Modi and his mother Bina Modi.

A Bench led by CJI N.V. Ramana advised parties on both sides of the case to go for mediation without any pre-condition. The parties, represented by senior advocates Harish Salve and Kapil Sibal, had informed the court on July 28 that earlier attempts at mediation had failed.

Normal rainfall in Aug., Sept.: IMD

But parts of east-central, east and northeast India may witness a deficit, it says

JACOB KOSHY
NEW DELHI

The monsoon is expected to be "normal" during August and September over most of India, except parts of eastern India, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Monday.

Normal to above normal rainfall is very likely over most parts of South India except west coast, west-central India and northwest India, officials said a press conference. Below-normal rainfall is likely over many parts of the west coast and some parts of east-central, east and northeast India, they added.

Shower time: A boatman ferries passengers ashore amid heavy rain in Kochi on Monday. • PTI

Surplus in July

The rainfall in July, crucial for agriculture, was surplus by 16% with most regions of the country getting excess rainfall except for east and northeast India, which reported a 44% deficit. Overall, India received a 7% surplus rain from June 1 to August 1.

The rainfall for August will most likely be normal (94% to 106% of its long period average or LPA). Most parts of southeast and northwest India and adjoining west-central India are likely to get normal rain with below normal likely over the west coast and many parts of east-central, east and northeast India.

Elevated temperatures

Temperatures too are expected to be elevated over parts of east-central, east and northeast India and some parts of northwest and south interior peninsular India, the IMD said in a statement. The expectations of a normal monsoon in August and September are premised on the persistence of La Nina, the converse of El Nino and characterised by the cooling of the waters of the Central Pacific. The ensuing effects are expected to help bring more rain to the Indian subcontinent, unlike the El Nino which normally dries up the rain.

However, the Indian Ocean Dipole, another index of significance, marked by a swing of warm waters between the eastern and western halves of the Indian Ocean, to the monsoon is expected to be negative.

A negative outlook is expected to be unfavourable for the monsoon, though M. Mohapatra, Director-General, IMD, said that this was not expected to translate into a serious deficit due to the favourable effect of La Nina.

Centre alerts States to step up vigilance over IS threat

Disruptions to Independence Day celebrations suspected

S. VIJAY KUMAR
CHENNAI

The Union government has alerted all States to step up vigil at vulnerable locations and conduct combing operations on possible hideouts of terror suspects. The alert follows specific inputs that IS handlers abroad had developed applications to recruit and train youth to execute a terror plot targeting vital installations, religious leaders, places of high footfall and so on.

Central and State intelligence agencies are conducting joint searches at dozens of locations in different States and detaining youth who were in touch with IS operatives on social media or mobile phone applications. Investigators claimed to have information that besides a systematic indoctrination of the jihadi ideology, the handlers were exposing the recruits to handling of explosives, weapons, tactical warfare and so on.

Tamil Nadu Director-General of Police (DGP) C. Sylendra Babu said the police conducted searches and apprehended some youth after ascertaining that they were in touch with banned organisations.

In the arrest of Mir Idayat Ali (21) of Ambur in Tirupattur district under the UAPA, the police claimed he was recruited by the IS and was in touch with the handlers. The suspect was part of a conspiracy to cause terror attacks, the report said.

The Special Sub-Inspector said Mr. Ali was in possession of two mobile phones, a laptop and two knives. However, the police did not confirm whether there was any specific content in the devices to corroborate the allegations.

The sources said some terrorist organisations planned to disrupt the Independence Day celebrations. While security agencies were averting or intercepting consignments of arms/ammunition being supplied across the border using drones, it was possible that some could have reached them. The State police were told to enhance security at airports, seaports, railway stations, bus terminals, places of worship, malls and so on, Mr. Babu said.

Purohit plea redirected to Bombay HC

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday asked the Bombay High Court to decide expeditiously a plea by Lieutenant-Colonel Prasad Purohit, an accused in the 2008 Malegaon blast case, challenging the Centre's sanction to prosecute him.

A Bench requested the High Court to decide Mr. Purohit's plea against the government's sanction under Section 197(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. "Keeping in view the facts and circumstances of the case, we deem it appropriate to request the High Court to take up the writ petition and decide the same expeditiously in accordance with law," it said.

Irani, daughter not owners of Goa restaurant, says Delhi HC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court has held that Union Minister Smriti Irani and her daughter are neither owners of a restaurant-cum-bar in Goa at the centre of a controversy nor a licence was ever issued in their favour.

The court added that the statements by three Congress leaders against them seemed to be "bogus with malicious intent".

Further saying that even the show-cause notice issued by the Government of Goa was not addressed to Ms. Irani or her family members, the court said the three Congress leaders – Jairam Ramesh, Pawan Khera, Netta D'Souza – along with others conspired to "launch a tirade of false, scathing and belligerent personal attacks" against them.

'Great public ridicule'

The Congress has alleged that the senior BJP leader and her daughter had links with the upmarket restaurant 'Silly Souls Café and Bar'.

The High Court said the statements made by the three Congress leaders were in the "nature of slander and seem to be bogus with malicious intent" to intentionally subject Ms. Irani to a "great public ridicule" and "to injure the moral character and public image" of the Minister and her daughter.

The order, in which the High Court had on July 29 issued summonses to the three Congress leaders on the civil defamation suit, was uploaded on the court's website on Monday.

Intranasal vaccine for COVID in the works

Novel vaccine may prevent infection and transmission: Bharat Biotech director

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

Bharat Biotech, the Hyderabad-based vaccine maker, is now working with the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis for a novel chimp adenovirus intranasal vaccine for COVID which is likely to prevent infection and transmission, said its chairman and managing director Krishna M. Ella on Monday.

"If a new variant is coming every year, the nasal vaccine is critical. It can produce IGG, IGA and T-cell immunity responses. People in the United States who took the RNA vaccine for even five doses and those who took Covaxin here are getting re-infected with Omicron because injectable vaccines can provide protection to an extent only and the upper nasal is not protected," he explained.

Dr. Ella was delivering a lecture at the CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT) after receiving the Dr. A.V. Rama Rao Technology Award from Dr. Rama Rao, former director of IICT, in the presence of the current director D. Srinivasa Reddy and others. The intranasal vaccine can come in a 10-dose vial and multi-doses can be delivered to remote places, he said.

Krishna M. Ella

People can be vaccinated in large numbers by administering just a few drops like the polio vaccine, Dr. Ella added.

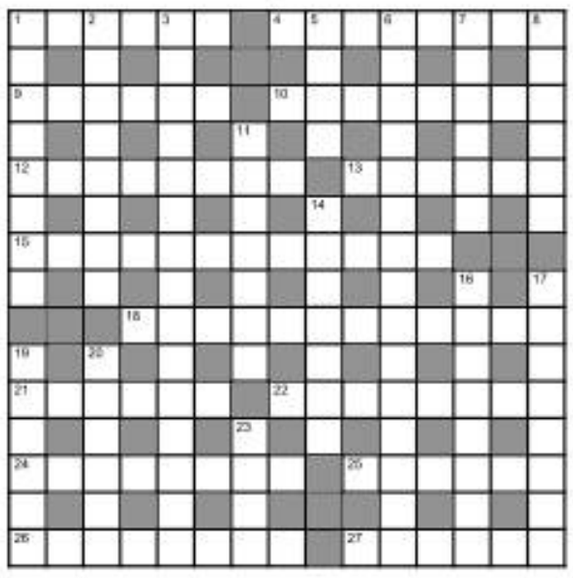
'Variant proof'

The firm is also working on a 'variant proof' SARS COVID vaccine in association with a Swiss company, ExcellGene, and the University of Sydney, Australia, with consortia funding from the Coalition of Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), a global effort with public and private partnership to develop vaccines for future epidemics.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD + 13624

(set by Arden)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*



Across

1 Insult another ruler (6)
4 Traitor will regularly lampoon, say... (8)
9 ...fools take time, is it worth? (6)
10 Expressing doubt about spade work in capital (8)
12 Dimensions of money, this has no interest (8)
13 Want to be a father? Keep quiet (6)
15 Hiring again with harvest giving some indications (12)
18 Herb's off – boards plane on time finally (8-4)
21 Self-starter with a place to live, extremely sensible (6)
22 Instrument to play latest music – learn it, perhaps (8)
24 Islanders establish overall ancestry (8)
25 Washer and empty cartridge in box (6)
26 Art is very famous (4,4)
27 Already fast, city wise they're in the centre (2,2,2)

Down

1 Band on the road carrying empty bag or a sheath (8)
2 What a gambler possibly salvages here (3,5)
3 Like to have working president, sent these to fight depression (15)
5 Choice to pare the fat somewhat (4)
6 Use spartan dress, it's standard (5,3,7)
7 American flying ace, a mile away (6)
8 Vietnamese have become vain with pride (6)
11 The fleet drops one, crosses the border for some prawns (7)
14 Old houses, right time to frighten (7)
16 Hold on, allow business partners to come up and fix the wooden panelling (8)
17 Studies cover true representation, some old people use them (8)
19 Regular mission except for a line on the weather map (6)
20 To make carbon steel, change rates altogether (2,4)
23 From the South part of Australia is adjoining this land mass (4)

SUDOKU

	6						7	9
		3	7			2		
4				2	5			
	8				2		6	1
5				4				7
1	7		8				2	
			5	1				8
		8			6	1		
3	5						9	

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to puzzle 13623

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

4	9	6	7	2	8	3	5	1
1	8	7	5	4	3	2	6	9
5	3	2	9	6	1	8	7	4
9	7	4	8	1	2	6	3	5
8	1	3	4	5	6	9	2	7
2	6	5	3	9	7	4	1	8
3	2	8	1	7	4	5	9	6
6	5	1	2	8	9	7	4	3
7	4	9	6	3	5	1	8	2

FAITH

Chastisement and blessing

The Lord is the means and the goal for every one in this creation, is the word of the scriptures. When imparting the essence of the Upanishad teachings to Arjuna and to humanity at large, the Lord promises to give release to all the souls bound by karma if only they repose faith in Him and seek His feet in surrender. The devoted know His boundless mercy and want to remain in dedicated and loyal service to Him at all times. What about those who are not His devotees or those who are openly antagonistic to Him?

In Krishna avatar, taken for the purpose of reducing the burden of adharma on Goddess Earth, if those who are devoted to Him receive His grace, even those who are evil-minded and are deputed by Kamsa to kill Him are graced and given salvation. This is the special quality of His boundless grace, pointed out Sri B. Sundarkumar in a discourse. Putana came in the role of a mother but with the evil intention to kill the child Krishna. God granted her salvation so that she does not have to be born in a mother's womb anymore. The episode of Kaliya also is an exceptional one. Being an offender, he deserved punishment and the Lord confronted him in a long fight. He tamed him and performed the breath-taking dance on the serpent's many heads. Kaliya was humbled and sought refuge in Krishna.

The wives of Kaliya also ran to Krishna for protection. Their words to Krishna reflect their innate jnana of the Paratva of Krishna. They confessed that they are unable to understand what merit of Kaliya had won for him this unique benefit when the Lord placed His divine feet on his head? How many yogis and jnanis have been practising austerities for many years to attain this prospect of bearing the dust of His feet on their heads?

Amid China warnings, Pelosi to visit Taiwan: report

She will visit Parliament tomorrow, according to local media; Beijing says its military won't 'sit idly by' if she visits island

REUTERS
TAIPEI/BEIJING

U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi was set to visit Taiwan on Tuesday, Taiwanese media reported on Monday, citing unidentified sources, as China warned that its military would never "sit idly by" if she were to visit the self-ruled island claimed by Beijing.

One of the newspapers, the *Liberty Times*, said Ms. Pelosi was scheduled to visit Taiwan's Parliament on Wednesday morning before continuing her Asia trip, which began earlier on Monday in Singapore. Reuters could not immediately confirm the reports.

U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, left, and Singapore's PM Lee Hsien Loong shaking hands in Singapore. •AP

White House National Security spokesman John Kirby on Monday told reporters that Ms. Pelosi "has the right to visit Taiwan".

Secretary of State Antony Blinken said that such a visit would be entirely her decision, but called on China not to escalate tensions in the event of a visit.

"If the Speaker does decide to visit and China tries to create some kind of crisis or otherwise escalate tensions, that would be entirely on Beijing," Mr. Blinken said.

Taiwan's Foreign Ministry said it had no comment on reports of Ms. Pelosi's travel plans.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said earlier on Monday that it would be "a gross interference in China's internal affairs" if Ms. Pelosi visits Taiwan, and warned that it would lead to "very serious developments and consequences."

"We would like to tell the U.S. once again that China is standing by, the Chinese People's Liberation Army will never sit idly by, and China will take resolute responses and strong countermeasures to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity," Mr. Zhao told reporters.

Asked what kind of measures the PLA might take, Mr. Zhao said: "if she dares to go, then let us wait and see."

China views visits by U.S. officials to Taiwan as sending an encouraging signal to the pro-independence camp in the island. Washington does not have official diplomatic ties with Taiwan but is bound by U.S. law to provide the island with the means to defend itself.

A visit by Ms. Pelosi, who is second in the line of succession to the U.S. presidency and a long-time critic of China, would come amid worsening ties between Washington and Beijing. Republican Newt Gingrich was the last House speaker to visit Taiwan, in 1997.

On Monday, Ms. Pelosi and her delegation met with Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, discussing issues including cross-strait relations, the Ukraine war and climate change, Singapore's Foreign Ministry said.

"PM Lee highlighted the importance of stable U.S.-China relations for regional peace and security," it said.

On Monday, CNN, citing a Taiwanese official and a U.S. official, both unidentified, said Ms. Pelosi was expected to land in Taiwan in the coming days and stay overnight.

Bon voyage: The Sierra Leone-flagged cargo ship, *Razoni*, carrying Ukrainian grain leaves the port of Odesa. •REUTERS

First ship of Ukrainian grain leaves Odesa port

Russian blockade had prevented export

ASSOCIATED PRESS
ANKARA

The first shipment of Ukrainian grain since the Russian invasion in February left the port of Odesa on Monday under a landmark deal to lift Moscow's naval blockade in the Black Sea.

United Nations chief Antonio Guterres, who brokered the plan with Turkey, welcomed the announcement. Kyiv said it would bring "relief for the world" if Moscow held up its side of the accord.

The five-month halt of deliveries from war-torn Ukraine – one of the world's biggest grain exporters – has contributed to soaring food prices, hitting the world's poorest nations especially hard.

Officials said the *Razoni* cargo ship, registered in Sierra Leone, was making its way through a specially cleared corridor in the mine-infested waters of the Black Sea with 26,000 tonnes of maize on board.

"It is expected in Istanbul on August 2. It will then continue its journey after it has been inspected in Istanbul," the Turkish Foreign Minister said in a statement.

Other convoys would follow, respecting the maritime corridor and the agreed formalities, the statement said.

Last month, Ukraine and Russia signed the breakthrough pact – the first significant accord involving the warring sides since the invasion – with Turkey and the United Nations aimed at getting millions of tonnes of trapped Ukrainian grain to world markets.

But Russian strikes on the Odesa port the day after the deal was signed sparked outrage from Ukraine's allies and cast doubt over the accord.

Mr. Guterres said he hoped the *Razoni* would be the first of many commercial ships to depart from Ukraine and that "this will bring much-needed stability and relief to global food security, especially in the most fragile humanitarian contexts".

The UN chief said that the World Food Programme was planning to "purchase, load and ship an initial 30,000 tonnes of wheat out of Ukraine on a UN-chartered vessel," with more details in the coming days.

40 settlements retaken: Kyiv

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
KYIV

Ukrainian forces have recaptured more than 40 settlements in the key southern region of Kherson, as Kyiv looks to drive back Russian troops in a counter-offensive, the Governor Dmytro Butriy said on Monday. Ukrainian Army is bolstered by deliveries of Western-supplied long-range artillery.

Biden for talks on nuclear arms control

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON

President Joe Biden called on Monday on Russia and China to enter nuclear arms control talks, saying that Moscow in particular has a duty to show responsibility after its invasion of Ukraine.

In a statement, the U.S. leader reiterated that his administration is ready to "expeditiously negotiate" a replacement to New START, the treaty capping intercontinental nuclear forces in the U.S. and Russia, which is set to expire in 2026.

"Russia should demonstrate that it is ready to resume work on nuclear arms control," Mr. Biden said.

Turning to China, which has been bolstering its much smaller nuclear arsenal, the U.S. President said the communist state has a duty as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council "to engage in discussions that will reduce the risk of miscalculation and address destabilising military dynamics."

Myanmar junta extends emergency by 6 months

'Difficult to implement ASEAN plan'

REUTERS
YANGON

The leader of Myanmar's junta on Monday extended emergency rule in the country for another six months.

0General Min Aung Hlaing blamed internal instability for junta's failure to implement a peace plan agreed with other Southeast Asian countries.

The junta declared emergency last year after seizing power from the elected leader Aung San Suu Kyi, in a coup in February citing voting fraud.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) agreed a five-point "consensus" to end hostilities last year, which was accepted by the junta but there has been little sign of the junta implementing the plan, which includes an end to violence and dialogue.

Gen. Min said pandemic and internal violence prevented the junta from "implementing the ASEAN consensus", adding that under a "normal" situation progress could be made.

The military has pledged to hold new elections in August 2023. However, opponents do not believe it would be free and fair.

'Iran has means to make atom bomb, no intention of doing so'

Iran is enriching uranium to up to 60% fissile purity

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
DUBAI

Iran has the technical capability to produce an atomic bomb but has no intention of doing so, Mohammad Eslami, head of the country's atomic energy organisation, said on Monday, according to the semi-official Fars news agency.

Mr. Eslami reiterated comments made by Kamal Kharrazi, a senior adviser to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, in July.

Mr. Kharrazi's remarks amounted to a rare suggestion that the Islamic Republic might have an interest in nuclear weapons, which it has long denied seeking.

"As Mr. Kharrazi mentioned, Iran has the technical ability to build an atomic bomb, but such a programme is not on the agenda," said Mr. Eslami.

Iran is already enriching uranium to up to 60% fissile purity, far above a cap of 3.67% set under Tehran's now tattered 2015 nuclear deal with world powers. Uranium enriched to 90% is suitable for a nuclear bomb.

In 2018, former U.S. President Donald Trump ditched the nuclear pact, under which Iran curbed its uranium enrichment work, a potential pathway to nuclear weapons, in exchange for relief from international economic sanctions.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanani on Monday said that Iran remains "optimistic" about a possible revival of the 2015 nuclear deal after the EU tabled a proposal aiming for a compromise in the talks stalled since March.

Sri Lanka seeks urgent help to feed children

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
COLOMBO

Sri Lanka issued an urgent appeal on Monday to tackle rapidly spreading malnutrition among children as its economic crisis leaves nine out of 10 people dependent on state handouts.

The Ministry for Women and Child Affairs said they were seeking private donations to feed several hundred thousand children suffering due to insufficient food.

"When the COVID pandemic was at its peak, the problem was bad, but now, with the economic crisis, the situation is far worse," secretary Neil Bandara Hapuhinne told reporters in Colombo.

Mr. Hapuhinne said they had counted 1,27,000 malnourished children among the 5,70,000 girls and boys below the age of five in mid-2021.

Since then, he estimated the numbers have increased several fold with the full impact of rampant inflation and dire shortages of food and other essentials.

He said the number of people receiving direct state handouts has almost doubled in the past year with over 90% of the population now relying on the government for financial help.

Mr. Hapuhinne said these included about 1.6 million government employees.

UNICEF has also issued an appeal for funding, saying that children were disproportionately affected by the severe economic crisis.

Counter protests in Iraq over Parliament takeover

This sparks fear of further escalation

Stand-off: Supporters of Coordination Framework holding a protest against Sadr's loyalists in Baghdad. •AFP

ASSOCIATED PRESS
BAGHDAD

Hundreds of Iraqis took to the streets of Baghdad Monday in counter-protests as rival supporters of Shiite Muslim cleric Moqtada Sadr extended their occupation of Parliament for a third day.

A political standoff – almost 10 months after Iraqis went to the polls – pits two key factions among the country's majority Shia population, between the populist Sadr with a devoted following of millions, and the powerful pro-Iran Coordination Framework.

'Won't allow a coup'

"The people will not allow a coup," read placards held by supporters of the Coordination Framework as they marched towards the Green Zone, the home of Parliament – which since Saturday, Sadr's supporters have been occupying.

Large numbers of security forces set up roadblocks in a bid to contain the counter-protests, firing water cannon at the crowds to keep them away from the Green Zone. "It is the Parliament of the people, of all Iraqis, not the parliament of a select group", said protester Ahmed Ali, 25, condemning "the storming" of government institutions.

Sadr's supporters on Saturday breached the normally high-security Green Zone – also home to government buildings and embassies – in protest at the prime ministerial nomination by their rivals, the Coordination Framework.

'Defend the state'

As demonstrations took place outside the Green Zone's walls, thousands of rival Sadr supporters maintained their protests inside, waving flags and carrying placards of their leader.

On social media, followers of the Coordination Framework insisted the demonstrations are "not directed against any particular group".

They also urged the protesters not to enter the Green Zone, saying that the objective was to "defend the state and its legitimacy".

In Iraq, government formation has involved complex negotiations since a 2003 U.S.-led invasion toppled dictator Saddam Hussein.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
Construction Organisation, Ernakulam Jn.

1. TENDER NOTICE No: 12-CE-CN-ERS-2022-OT dated 25.07.2022
Name of Work: Construction of Road Over Bridges.
Tender Value: ₹ 1513.64 Lakhs
Bid Security: ₹ 906800 /-
Completion Period: 15 Months

2. TENDER NOTICE No: 13-CE-CN-ERS-2022-OT dated 25.07.2022
Name of Work: Construction of Gabion wall.
Tender Value: ₹ 701.81 lakhs
Bid Security: ₹ 500900/-
Completion Period: 8 Months

3. TENDER NOTICE No: 14-CE-CN-ERS-2022-OT dated 25.07.2022
Name of Work: MEMU shed at Kollam.
Tender Value: ₹ 1935.95 lakhs
Bid Security: ₹ 1118000/-
Completion Period: 18 Months

Date and time of tender closing: 19.08.2022

Complete details and tender document will be available at https://www.ireps.gov.in

Chief Engineer/Construction
Ernakulam Jn.

Follow us on ; twitter.com/GMSRailway

ODISHA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Odisha Undertaking)
Regd. Office: Janpath, Bhubaneswar-751022
CIN:U40102OR2004SGC007553

TENDER ALERT

1) E-Tender Notice No.ED-NZ-BLS-01/2022-23: Completion of minimum quantity of balance work of 132/33 kV Grid S/s , Betanoti and associated 132 kV LILO line with an estimate cost of RS. **1,99,82,690.00/-** only in Mayurbhanj District on Turnkey Contract basis under E.D, Nothern Zone, Balasore.

2) E-Tender Notice No.02/2022-23 of SE-CWC-OPTCL-BBSR:- Interior work of Block-A of Shakti Bhawan Complex at Bhubaneswar under S.E, Civil Works Circle, OPTCL, Bhubaneswar.

Complete set of bidding documents are available on **www.tenderwizard.com/OPTCL and www.tendersodisha.gov.in** portal and OPTCL's official website: **www.optcl.co.in.**

CAD-1310 FIPR-30/2021-22 OPR:04011/11/0069/2223

Odisha State Medical Corporation Limited (OSMC)
In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar-751 001
Tel.:(0674) 2388608; Website: www.osmcl.nic.in, Email: proc.osmcl.od@nic.in
Assuring Quality, Saving Lives

Notification No.5535 / OSMCL / 2022 Date : 01.08.2022

NOTICE INVITING RE-TENDER FOR PROVISION OF CT SCAN SERVICES AT ESI HOSPITAL-BBSR

Online Bids through **e-Tender portal (https://tendersodisha.gov.in)** are invited from eligible bidders for **provision of CT Scan Services at ESI Hospital-BBSR** as per the particulars mentioned below :

Sl.	Bid Reference No.	Item Name	Bid Document Cost inclusive of GST (Rs.)
1.	OSMCL / 2022-23 /CT SCAN SERVICES ESI / 09	Re-tender for Provision of CT Scan Services at ESI Hospital - Bhubaneswar.	5,600/-

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date and time	
1.	Date & time of release of bid	01.08.2022, 5 PM	
2.	Date & time of Pre-bid meeting	06.08.2022, 3 PM Venue : Conference Hall, Odisha State Medical Corporation Ltd., In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar	
3.	Date & time of Online bid submission	Start Date & Time 16.08.2022, 3 PM	End Date & Time 30.08.2022, 5 PM
4.	Date & time of online Technical Bid Opening	02.09.2022, 3 PM	
5.	Date of opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the qualified bidders	

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, Prequalification criteria and terms & conditions are available in the websites: **www.osmcl.nic.in** and **https://tendersodisha.gov.in** . OSMCL reserves the right to reject or modify any conditions of the tender or cancel the tender or cancel the issued purchase order at any stage without assigning any reason thereof.

CAD-1311 Sd/- **Managing Director, OSMC Ltd., Odisha** OPR-10112/11/0029/2223

Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of India Enterprise & A Group Company of IndianOil)
CPCL
Registered Office: CPCL, No. 536, Anna Salai, Teynampet, Chennai – 600 018
Tel. No.: 044 – 2434 6807 Email: investors@cpcl.co.in; website: www.cpcl.co.in

Notice is hereby given that, the 56th Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of the members of Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited ("Company") will be held on Tuesday, the 23rd August, 2022 at 03.30 PM (IST) through Video Conferencing ("VC") / Other Audio Visual Means ("OAVM"), in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and the rules notified thereunder and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 read with all applicable circulars issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs ("MCA") and the Securities Exchange Board of India ("SEBI") to transact the business set out in the notice calling the AGM.

The VC / OAVM facility for the meeting shall be provided by KFin Technologies Limited ("KFin") to transact the business set out in the Notice convening the AGM. The members can attend and participate in the AGM only through VC / OAVM as no provision has been made to attend the AGM in person. The attendance through VC / OAVM will be counted for the purpose of reckoning the quorum for the AGM.

In compliance with MCA & SEBI Circular(s), the Notice setting out the businesses to be transacted at the AGM together with the Annual Report of the Company for the year 2021-22 has been sent electronically to those members whose e-mail address is registered with the Company / Depository Participant(s) on 30.07.22. The Notice of the AGM and the Annual Report are also made available on the Company's website at www.cpcl.co.in and on the website of the Stock Exchanges, i.e. BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com, respectively and on the website of KFin at https://evoting.kfintech.com.

For Registration of Email ID:

A) In case, the member's e-mail ID is already registered with the Company's RTA / Depositories, login details for remote e-voting are being sent to the registered email address.

B) In case the members have not registered their email address, they are requested to register their email address as follows:

Physical Holding	Members, holding shares in physical mode are requested to get their e-mail id's registered by visiting the following link- https://ris.kfintech.com/clientservices/isc/default.aspx
Demat Holding	Members, holding shares in dematerialized mode are requested to register / update their email id's with their respective Depository Participant.

Manner of casting vote(s) through e-voting and joining the AGM through VC/OAVM:

Members will have an opportunity to cast their vote(s) on the business as set out in the Notice of the AGM through remote e-voting facility ("remote e-voting"). The facility for e-voting will also be made available during the AGM to those members who could not cast their vote(s) through remote e-voting. The detailed procedure for e-voting before as well as during the AGM is provided in the Notice of the AGM.

Record Date for payment of Dividend:

The Company has fixed Wednesday, 10th August, 2022 as the Record Date for determining the eligibility of members to receive equity dividend, recommended by the Board of Directors of the Company for the year ended 31st March 2022.

The dividend will be paid within the stipulated period of 30 days from its declaration through electronic mode to those members whose updated bank account details are available. For members whose bank account details are not updated, dividend warrants / demand drafts will be sent to their registered address. To avoid delay in receiving dividend, members are requested to register/ update their bank account details.

Manner of registering KYC including bank details for receiving dividend:

(a) For shares held in physical form - SEBI vide circular dtd. 3rd November 2021, has mandated registration of PAN, KYC details and Nomination for members holding shares held in physical form. Therefore, members holding shares in physical form are requested to submit their PAN, KYC details including bank details and nomination details to Registrar and Transfer Agent at KFin Technologies Limited, Selenium Tower B, Plot 31-32, Financial District, Nanakramguda, Hyderabad - 500 032 or through email id: einward.ris@kfintech.com by sending a duly filled in Form-ISR -1 and other relevant forms available on the website of the Company at https://cpcl.co.in/investors/share-holder-information/investor-relations/.

(b) For shares held in dematerialized form - with the Depository Participant where the demat account is maintained as per the process advised by your Depository Participant. Members are requested to carefully read all the notes set out in the Notice of the AGM and in particular, instructions for joining the AGM and manner of casting vote through remote e-voting and e-voting at the AGM.

For Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited
Sd/-
P. Shankar
Company Secretary
M.No. A7624

Place : Chennai
Dated : 1st August, 2022

MARKET WATCH

	01-08-2022	% CHANGE
Sensex	58,116	0.95
US Dollar	79.06	0.22
Gold	51,947	0.31
Brent oil	100.16	–

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	801.25	37.55
Apollo Hosp	4288.10	75.80
Asian Paints	3324.55	-9.20
Axis Bank	730.80	6.05
Bajaj Auto	3973.30	58.85
Bajaj Finserv	15073.10	25.50
Bajaj Finance	7261.00	51.90
Bharti Airtel	694.45	16.50
BPCL	334.15	3.85
Britannia Ind	3855.65	-44.75
Cipla	1004.55	27.15
Coal India	212.75	1.50
Divis Lab	3795.20	-36.45
Dr Reddys Lab	4110.45	20.10
Eicher Motors	3088.40	-5.05
Grasim Ind	1568.40	-4.60
HCL Tech	952.15	3.75
HDFC	2383.75	5.95
HDFC Bank	1446.15	11.95
HDFC Life	546.05	-9.45
Hero MotoCorp	2840.80	22.75
Hindalco	424.00	8.95
Hind Unilever	2593.00	-44.40
ICICI Bank	823.40	4.80
Indusind Bank	1040.15	-3.35
Infosys	1551.05	1.35
ITC	307.50	4.45
JSW Steel	639.20	9.60
Kotak Bank	1855.75	45.40
L&T	1814.70	6.65
M&M	1237.75	71.10
Maruti Suzuki	9003.40	229.85
Nestle India Ltd.	19255.20	-103.90
NTPC	156.50	3.55
ONGC	138.40	4.25
PowerGrid Corp	218.95	5.00
Reliance Ind	2574.85	65.40
SBI Life	1313.30	18.90
State Bank	533.75	5.40
Shree Cement	20947.00	449.00
Sun Pharma	918.70	-24.50
Tata Consumer Products Ltd.	811.10	-0.55
Tata Motors	479.20	29.60
Tata Steel	108.25	0.65
TCS	3298.80	-3.10
Tech Mahindra	1049.60	0.95
Titan	2376.25	24.20
UltraTech Cement	6657.65	112.85
UPL	767.35	26.25
Wipro	429.00	5.30

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on August 01

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	78.82	79.14
Euro	80.66	80.99
British Pound	96.36	96.75
Japanese Yen (100)	59.50	59.74
Chinese Yuan	11.66	11.72
Swiss Franc	82.95	83.29
Singapore Dollar	57.23	57.48
Canadian Dollar	61.69	61.95
Malaysian Ringitt	17.70	17.77
Australian Dollar	55.50	55.73

Source: Indian Bank

IN BRIEF

ICICI Bank lifts lending rates by 15 basis points

NEW DELHI

ICICI Bank on Monday raised lending rates by 0.15% across all tenors. Under the revised rates, the bank's one-year MCLR increased by 15 basis points, or 0.15%, to 7.9%, while the overnight MCLR rose to 7.65%, according to the bank's website.

Tekion aims to hire 400 engineers in India

BENGALURU

Tekion, an automotive retail cloud firm, said it would hire more than 400 people in India in the next two months. Tekion's talent acquisition teams would visit engineering colleges across India to recruit 400 engineers, who would be part of the company's global innovation team, Tekion said. The California-based company was founded in 2016 by former Tesla CIO Jay Vijayan.

Manufacturing PMI hits 8-month high

July's output growth fastest since November, input cost inflation slows to 11-month low: S&P Global

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

India's manufacturing sector rebounded in July, with sales and output growing at the fastest pace since November, as per the survey-based S&P Global India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI). The PMI quickened last month to 56.4, from June's 9-month low of 53.9.

The index suggested 'marked gains' in new business orders during July, even though job creation remained marginal amid an uncertain outlook.

Still slack: Uncertainty has curbed hiring with 98% of firms keeping workforce numbers unchanged. • SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

'Pass-through softens'

Although costs continued to rise, the inflation rate in manufacturing inputs eased to an 11-month low. Chemicals, electronic components, metals, textiles and transportation fees were reportedly higher, even as the pass-through of higher costs to output prices moderated to the lowest in four months.

"Inflation rates, for both input prices and output charges, were most acute in the capital goods segment," S&P Global said. "The weakest rises were... in the intermediate goods sub-sector."

New export orders grew at the slowest pace in four months, even as aggregate new orders recovered smartly in July from the loss in growth momentum in the preceding month. It was the thirteenth month in a row that factory orders and production recorded growth.

'Outlook, jobs subdued'

The uptick in July, however, did not alter the outlook among most producers, with 96% expecting no change in output levels over the coming year. Business sentiment was only marginally better than June, when it had slipped to a 27-month low.

The uncertainty about the future also constrained hiring, which remained marginal, with 98% of firms keeping workforce numbers unchanged as there was no pressure on operating capacities. "Despite the solid performance... overall job creation remained subdued," S&P Global noted. The "increase in employment was... broadly similar to those seen in the current five-month sequence of growth," it added.

Pollyanna De Lima, economics associate director at S&P Global Market Intelligence said July marked a 'welcome combination of faster economic growth and softening inflation' for producers. "Although the upturn in demand gained strength, there were clear signs that capacity pressures remained mild as backlogs rose only marginally and job creation remained subdued," Ms. De Lima added.

"Firms were successful in their efforts to obtain inputs amid a second consecutive improvement in supplier performance," she noted.

Passenger vehicle sales rise on better chip supply

'Industry marks highest monthly sales'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Improvement in semiconductor supplies helped automakers, including Maruti Suzuki, Hyundai, Tata Motors and M&M, report single to high double-digit growth in domestic passenger vehicle (PV) sales in July.

Maruti Suzuki India on Monday said its domestic passenger vehicle sales rose 6.82% last month to 1,42,850 units.

"Overall industry sales stood at over 3.42 lakh units last month as compared with 2.94 lakh units in July 2021. This is the highest wholesale figure we have ever seen in the industry," MSI India senior director (Marketing and Sales) Shashank Srivastava told PTI.

The industry may cross 37 lakh units in sales this fiscal, the highest ever

The previous best wholesales stood at 3.34 lakh units in October 2020, he said, adding that it had been possible due to better production as the chip shortage had eased a bit.

The industry is expected to cross 37 lakh units in sales this fiscal, which is would be the highest ever, he noted.

Hyundai Motor India said domestic sales rose 5.1% to 50,500 units, while Tata Motors posted a 57% increase in domestic PV sales to 47,505. M&M reported a 33% growth in domestic PV sales to 28,053 units, driven by utility vehicles.

Sensex gains 1%, rupee strengthens by 18 paise

M&M, Reliance and Maruti lead gains

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Benchmark equity indices gained about 1% on Monday backed by heavy buying across sectors. The rupee appreciated 18 paise to 79.06 on positive FPI flows.

The S&P BSE Sensex surged 545.25 points, or 0.95%, to 58,115.50 points. Top Sensex gainers included M&M (6.15%), Reliance Industries (2.64%), Maruti (2.64%), Kotak Bank (2.42%) and Bharti Airtel (2.4%).

"The optimism across the global bourses has spread buoyancy to our market, resulting in broad-based buying interest," said Osho Krishan, senior analyst, Technical & Derivative Research, Angel One. "The bulls have taken complete control of the market... evident on the technical chart with its higher highs – higher lows formation."

Anindya Banerjee, VP, Currency & Interest Rate Derivatives at Kotak Securities, said the rupee rose on FPI flows turning positive and some carry trade interest. "Improvement in forward premium has brought exporters into the market."

Oil slips on China, Europe factory data

REUTERS
LONDON

Oil prices dropped sharply on Monday as weak manufacturing data from China and Europe weighed on the demand outlook while investors braced for this week's meeting of officials from OPEC and other top crude producers on supply.

Brent crude futures were down $3.77, or 3.6%, at $100.20 a barrel by 1319 GMT, having fallen to a session low of $99.75. Factories across Asia and Europe struggled in July as flagging global demand and China's strict COVID-19 restrictions slowed production, surveys showed on Monday, adding to concerns about economies sliding into recession.

ITC Q1 net profit grows 33% as revenue expands 39%

'Good monsoon prospects, cooling input prices augur well'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

ITC Ltd. on Monday reported a 33.4% rise in consolidated net profit to ₹4,462.25 crore for the April-June quarter following 'good' performance by its business verticals. Revenue from operations rose 39.2% to ₹19,831.27 crore.

"Robust performance continues across segments," ITC said in an earnings statement. Total expenses grew 38.9% to ₹14,201.51 crore.

Economic activity during the quarter gathered further momentum with an uptick in business and consumer sentiment, it added.

"However, geopolitical tensions and persistent supply chain disruptions resulted in hardening of commodity prices, exacerbating the unprecedented inflationary conditions prevailing in the economy," ITC said. "Inflationary headwinds also manifested in subdued consumption expenditure with volumes coming under pressure, particularly in rural markets," it added.

Revenue from the 'total FMCG' segment, which includes cigarettes, grew 25% to ₹11,922.81 crore.

Revenue from hotels jumped fourfold to ₹580.71 crore in comparison with a lower base of the pandemic-impacted corresponding quarter. Hotels' revenue expanded 41.4% over the pre-pandemic Q1 of FY2019-20, it added in the statement.

"While... inflation remains a key monitorable, prospects of a favourable monsoon and the recent moderation in prices of key commodities... augur well for sustained economic recovery and a pick-up in consumption expenditure".

July fuel sales slide as rains limit mobility

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Petrol and diesel sales in the country fell in July over the previous month as the onset of monsoon rains chipped away demand in some sectors and restricted mobility, preliminary industry data showed.

Diesel saw consumption drop 13.1% to 6.44 million tonnes (MT) from 7.39 MT of demand in June.

Diesel demand in July was, however, 17.1% higher year-on-year.

Petrol sales fell 5% to 2.66 MT in July when compared with 2.8 MT of consumption in the previous month. The consumption was, however, 12.2% higher than in July 2021 and 31.2% more than the same month in 2020.

Carborundum Universal Q1 net rises 16%

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

Abrasives and industrial ceramics maker Carborundum Universal Ltd. (CUMI) reported a 16% increase in standalone net profit for the first quarter ended June to ₹73 crore.

Revenue from operations grew 29% to ₹607 crore. Abrasives accounted for ₹269 crore, while ceramics made up ₹193 crore and electrominerals, ₹179 crore. Total expenditure rose 29.45% to ₹523 crore. Raw material cost climbed 31% to ₹245 crore, the Murugappa group firm said in a filing. CUMI incurred ₹56-crore capital expenditure at the consolidated level.

China's factories slide back to slower growth

'Weak demand signals uncertainty'

REUTERS
BEIJING

China's factories lapsed into slower growth in July just a month after rebounding strongly, with persistent demand weakness and domestic COVID-19 outbreaks throwing the country's vast manufacturing sector back into a fresh period of uncertainty.

A private poll by Caixin on Monday showed factory activity expanded at a slower pace in July. That came on top of a bearish official survey on Sunday indicating the sector actually contracted last month. The Caixin/Markit manufacturing purchasing managers' index

eased to 50.4 from 51.7 in June, the poll showed, below expectations for a slight dip to 51.5 but above the 50-point mark that separates growth from contraction.

On Sunday, the official manufacturing PMI from the National Bureau of Statistics swung to 49 in July from 50.2 in June in an unexpected slump.

Commercial LPG, bulk diesel price cut

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

State-owned oil marketing firms on Monday cut commercial liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and bulk consumer diesel prices.

Effective August 1, a 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder in the four major metros costs about ₹36 less.

The new price in Delhi is ₹1,976.50 (₹2,012.50); Kolkata ₹2,095.50 (₹2,132); Mumbai ₹1,936.50 (₹1972.50); and Chennai ₹2,141 (₹2,177.50). An oil firm official said bulk diesel price had been cut by a little more than ₹10 per litre in Hyderabad to ₹120.05. The quantum of reduction varies from State to State.

GAIL said to ration gas supply as imports dip

Former Gazprom unit fails to ship LNG

REUTERS
NEW DELHI

GAIL (India) Ltd. has started gas rationing, cutting supplies to fertiliser and industrial clients after imports were hit under its deal with a former unit of Russian energy giant Gazprom, two sources familiar with the matter said.

Lower gas supplies will affect India's urea output, and a sustained cut would lift imports of the soil nutrient, a fertiliser industry source aware of the cuts said. Neither GAIL nor India's fertiliser ministry responded to requests for comments. Gazprom Marketing and Trading Singapore, now

a subsidiary of Gazprom Germania, has failed to deliver some liquefied natural gas cargoes to GAIL and has said it may not be able to meet supplies under their long-term deal. GAIL has cut supplies to some fertiliser plants by 10% and restricted gas sales to industrial clients to the lower tolerance limit of 10-20%, sources said.

Ramco Cements Q1 net dips 34%

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

The Ramco Cements Ltd. on Monday reported a 34% dip in first-quarter standalone net profit to ₹112 crore, following a sharp increase in fuel and input costs and weak cement prices.

The cement manufacturer posted a 45% jump in revenue from operations to ₹1,749 crore.

Total expenditure rose 65% to ₹1,626 crore. Raw material cost increased by 47% to ₹216 crore. Power and fuel cost more than doubled to ₹524 crore while transportation cost surged by 57% to ₹360 crore, the company said.

SPORT

McCoy's spell restricts India

Hardik top-scores as visitors finish with 138 in second T20I

INDIA IN WI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ST. KITTS

Left-arm paceman Obed McCoy wreaked havoc with sensational figures of six for 17 as West Indies skittled out India for a below-par 138 in the second T20 International here on Monday.

Put in, the Indians lost the momentum from the outset as skipper Rohit Sharma (0) was dismissed off the first delivery of the match.

The only time India seemed to have a partnership going was when Hardik Pandya (31 off 31 balls) and Ravindra Jadeja (27 off 30 balls) added 43 for the fifth wicket. Once Hardik's powerful slap off a Jason Holder bouncer was taken by Smith, McCoy came back to polish off the lower middle-order in a jiffy.

That's six! McCoy struck at regular intervals for WI. • AFP

SCOREBOARD

INDIA

Rohit Sharma c Hosein b McCoy 0 *(1b)*, Suryakumar Yadav c Thomas b McCoy 11 *(6b, 1x6)*, Shreyas Iyer c Thomas b Joseph 10 *(11b, 1x6)*, Rishabh Pant c Smith b Hosein 24 *(12b, 1x4, 2x6)*, Hardik Pandya c Smith b Holder 31 *(31b, 1x4, 2x6)*, Ravindra Jadeja c Powell b McCoy 27 *(30b, 1x6)*, Dinesh Karthik c Joseph b McCoy 7 *(13b)*, R. Ashwin c Smith b McCoy 10 *(6b, 2x4)*, Bhuvneshwar Kumar c Thomas b McCoy 1 *(3b)*, Avesh Khan b Holder 8 *(4b, 1x6)*, Arshdeep Singh not out 1 *(1b)*; Extras (lb-4, w-4): 8; Total (in 19.4 overs): 138.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-0 (Rohit, 0.1), 2-17 (Suryakumar, 2.1), 3-40 (Shreyas, 4.2), 4-61 (Pant, 6.3), 5-104 (Hardik, 13.4), 6-115 (Jadeja, 16.3), 7-127 (Karthik, 18.1), 8-128 (Ashwin, 18.4), 9-129 (Bhuvneshwar, 18.6).

WEST INDIES BOWLING

McCoy 4-1-17-6, Joseph 4-0-29-1, Smith 4-0-43-0, Hosein 4-0-22-1, Holder 3.4-0-23-2.

Toss: WI.

Gill leaves for Finland

Confident of creating an impression

WRC

RAYAN ROZARIO
COIMBATORE

After scorching the stages in the Rally of Coimbatore, three-time APRC champion Gaurav Gill had little time to celebrate as he had to board the flight for Finland to take part in the World Rally Championship (WRC 2) scheduled to begin on August 4.

Must have been hectic for the Arjuna awardee especially after a strenuous INRC drive.

"I have never driven in such extreme heat here before," Gill told *The Hindu* on Sunday. It must have taken a heavy toll. "I don't really care, because this is my life," he said.

Backed by JK Tyre Motorsports, the Delhi star is super excited and a bit nervous as well.

Gill. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"I am eagerly waiting to hit the road as Rally Finland is the fastest in WRC. I was there in 2018 and the four-year break is what is running in my mind. There's sure to be some butterflies in the stomach," he said.

With Brazilian Gabriel Morales as co-driver, Gill, who will be in a Skoda Fabia R5, is confident of creating an impression.

RACING

AYR wins P.G. Reddy Memorial Trophy

HYDERABAD: Trainer Leo D'Silva's AYR (Kuldeep Singh up) claimed the P.G. Reddy Memorial Trophy, the main event of Monday's (Aug. 1) races. The winner is owned by Mrs. Rajini Meka, Mr. Bharat Venkat Epur & Mr. Ayyadevara Srinivas. Trainer K. Satheesh saddled three winners on the day.

1. MALAKPET PLATE (1,400m), (Terms) Maiden, 3-y-o only (Cat. II): **PLEROMA** (Akshay Kumar) 1, Barbet (D.S. Deora) 2, Yaletown (P. Sai Kumar) 3 and Carnival Lady (B. Nikhil) 4. 2-3/4, 1 and 3-1/4. 1m, 28.17s. ₹17 (w), 12, 14 and 13 (p). SHP: 36, THP: 41, SHW: 11 and 15, FP: 45, Q: 28, Tanala: 112. Favourite: Pleroma. Owner: Mr. C. Aryama Sundaram. Trainer: R.H. Sequeira.

2. HYDERABAD PLATE (DIV. I) (1,200m), 5-y-o & upward, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II): **BLISSFUL** (Kuldeep Singh) 1, Strategist (Akshay Kumar) 2, N R I Touch (Abhay Singh) 3 and Four One Four (Aneel) 4. Not run: DRD and Hashtag. 3-1/2, 1/2 and 2. 1m, 13.90s. ₹32 (w), 14, 12 and 19 (p). SHP: 29, THP: 49, SHW: 17 and 15, FP: 69, Q: 35, Tanala: 436. Favourite: Strategist. Owner: M.A.M. Ramaswamy Chettiar of Chettinad Charitable Trust. Trainer: K. Satheesh.

3. SALAR JUNG CUP (1,400m), rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III): **BAUDELAIRE** (Mukesh Kumar) 1, Black Onyx (B. Nikhil) 2, Bellagio (Akshay Kumar) 3 and Special And Thong (P. Ajeeth Kumar) 4. 1-1/4, 2-3/4 and 1-1/2. 1m, 28.95s. ₹37 (w), 16, 121 and 12 (p). SHP: 442, THP: 57, SHW: 20 and 329, FP: 2,406, Q: 1,186, Tanala: 2,348. Favourite: Bellagio. Owners: Mr. K.N. Dhunjibhoy, Mr. Z.K. Dhunjibhoy rep. Five Stars Shipping Co Pvt. Ltd. & Mr. Teja Gollapudi. Trainer: Laxman Singh.

4. HYDERABAD PLATE (DIV. II) (1,200m), 5-y-o & upward, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II): **MARK MY DAY** (Nakhat Singh) 1, N R I Vision (Santosh Raj) 2, Top In Class (Kuldeep Singh) 3 and Miss Marvellous (Afroz Khan) 4. 5, Shd and Nk. 1m, 14.15s. ₹37 (w), 14, 11 and 18 (p). SHP: 40, THP: 55, SHW: 31 and 10, FP: 120, Q: 51, Tanala: 540. Favourite: N R I Vision. Owners: M.A.M. Ramaswamy Chettiar Of Chettinad Charitable Trust. Trainer: K. Satheesh.

5. P.G. REDDY MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,400m), rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II): **AYR** (Kuldeep Singh) 1, Full Volume (D.S. Deora) 2, Super Angel (M. Madhu Babu) 3 and Kingston (Gaurav Singh) 4. 1-1/2, 4-1/2 and 2. 1m, 27.57s. ₹82 (w), 20, 122 and 41 (p). SHP: 586, THP: 132, SHW: 30 and 174, FP: 7,441, Q: 4,805, Tanala: 34,864. Favourite: N R I Sport. Owners: Mrs. Rajini Meka, Mr. Bharat Venkat Epur & Mr. Ayyadevara Srinivas. Trainer: L. D'Silva.

6. FAIRWAY PLATE (1,200m), 5-y-o & upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III): **CLASSY DAME** (R.S. Jodha) 1, Theo's Choice (P. Sai Kumar) 2, Explosive (Akshay Kumar) 3 and Blazing Jupiter (Kuldeep Singh) 4. 2, 2-1/2 and Nk. 1m, 14.46s. ₹62 (w), 18, 22 and 14 (p). SHP: 64, THP: 85, SHW: 51 and 34, FP: 635, Q: 447, Tanala: 1,896. Favourite: Explosive. Owner: M.A.M. Ramaswamy Chettiar Of Chettinad Charitable Trust. Trainer: K. Satheesh.

Jackpot: 70%: ₹54,537 (9 tkts.) & 30%: 1,947 (108 tkts.).

Mini Jackpot: 6,003 (16 tkts.).

Treble: (i) 442 (83 tkts.), (ii) 1,077 (73 tkts.).

MRG-BGE

Achinta gives India another gold

Takes the top spot with a Games record in the 73kg section; Ajay fourth in 81kg

Golden moment: Achinta dedicated the triumph to his brother who made him take up the sport. • GETTY IMAGES

SANTADEEP DEY
BIRMINGHAM

It continued to rain medals for India in weightlifting at the Commonwealth Games as the 20-year-old Achinta Sheuli won the gold in the men's 73kg division on Sunday evening. This was India's sixth weightlifting medal in this edition.

Achinta dominated the field, producing a combined lift of 313kg (143kg in snatch, 170kg in clean and jerk) to set a Games record.

Achinta grew up in Deulpur village, a two-hour bus journey from Howrah, and took to weightlifting, following the footsteps of his elder brother Alok.

The world of the brothers came crashing down in April 2014 when their father, Pratik, died of a heatstroke. "The backbone of our family was gone. We were poor and after our father's death we had nothing," Alok said.

The years of struggle finally had a gold lining – the brothers had taken to embroidery to make ends meet after their father's death – as Achinta stood tall on the podium in Birmingham. Ajay Singh missed the bronze by a whisker in 81kg, his combined effort of 319kg (143+176) helping him finish fourth.

Search for medal ends

Women's lawn bowls team enters final

History beckons: The Indian team is set to go all out in the title clash against South Africa on Tuesday. • TWITTER@SAIMEDIA

SANTADEEP DEY
BIRMINGHAM

What do you get when you put together a team of two former physical education teachers, a police constable, and a forest department official? Answer – a champion lawn bowls team, ready to take on the world.

Victoria Park, on Monday, bore witness to history as the Indian women's fours team of Rupa Rani Tirkey, Pinki, Lovely Choubey, and Nayanmoni Saikia guaranteed the nation at least a silver medal in the event. The side trumped New Zealand 16-13 after 15 ends to set up a title clash with South Africa on Tuesday.

India's journey towards a Commonwealth Games medal in lawn bowls started with the National Games in 2007, in preparation for the 2010 edition of the quadrennial event at home. In the women's triples at that edition, the country lost by one point in the semifinal against Australia. That defeat gave Pinki and Rupa, ex-PE teachers, countless sleepless nights. But tonight, they will need to sleep well and charge up for the greatest day of their lives.

India blanks Singapore, moves into the final

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BIRMINGHAM

Lakshya Sen outsmarted and outlasted reigning World champion Loh Kean Yew as India showed its might to blank Singapore 3-0 and entered the mixed team final of the Commonwealth Games here on Monday.

The men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Reddy and Chirag Shetty put India 1-0 ahead with a 21-11, 21-12 win over Yong Kai Terry Hee and Andu Jun Kian Kwek.

Two-time Olympic medallist P.V. Sindhu was clinical against 19th-ranked Jia Min Yeo, winning 21-11, 21-12.

In the third match, Lakshya took his chances against the Singaporean and succeeded more often than not. The Indian used his booming smashes to upset Loh's rhythm. Though the Indian started slowly and fell 0-4 behind, he caught up soon.

Though Loh kept testing Lakysha, the Indian proved equal to the task and won 21-18, 21-15.

Battling it out: Lakshya was stretched all the way by Loh. • AP

TOP INDIAN PICKS

A look at some of the Indian players/teams who will be in action on Tuesday:

Artistic Gymnastics: Men (final): Vault: Satyajit Mondal (5.30 p.m.); Parallel Bars: Saif Tamboli (6.35 p.m.).

Athletics: Men: Long jump (qualifying): M. Sreeshankar, Muhammed Anees Yahiya (2.30 p.m.); High jump (qualifying): Tejaswin Shankar (12 a.m., August 3). Women: Discus (final): Seema Punia, Navjeet Kaur Dhillon (12.50 a.m., August 3).

Badminton: Mixed team final: vs. Malaysia (10 p.m.).

Boxing: Men (round-of-16): Welterweight: Rohit Tokas vs. Alfred Kotey (11.45 p.m.).

Hockey: Women (Pool A) vs. England (6.30 p.m.).

Lawn Bowls: Women's Fours (gold medal match): vs. South Africa (4.15 p.m.).

Squash: Men (semifinals): Saurav Ghosal vs. Paul Coll (9.15 p.m.).

Swimming: Men (heats): 200m backstroke: Srihari Nataraj (3 p.m.); 1500m freestyle: Advait Page (4.10 p.m.), Kushagra Rawat (4.25 pm.).

Weightlifting: Women: 76kg: Punam Yadav (2 p.m.).

Judoka Shushila clinches silver

Bronze for Vijay; Ghosal makes semifinals in squash

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BIRMINGHAM

Indian judokas L. Shushila Devi and Vijay Kumar Yadav signed off with a silver and a bronze medal in women's 48kg and men's 60kg respectively at the Commonwealth Games here on Monday.

The 27-year-old Shushila fought hard before losing the final via 'Waza-Ari' in the 4.25-minute final against South Africa's Michaela Whitebooi, while Yadav dished out a dominating show to take down Petros Christodoulides of Cyprus with a 'Ippon'.

However, Suchika Tariyal lost her 57kg bronze medal match against Christianne Legentil by a 'Waza-Ari'

Second time second

For Shushila, it was her second silver medal at the showpiece event. She had finished runner-up at the 2014 Glasgow games as well.

Yadav, who has won the Commonwealth Championships in 2018 and 2019, had lost to Joshua Katz of Australia in the quarterfinal, but produced a superb performance in the repechage to advance to the bronze medal match with a win by 'Waza Ari' over Dylon Munro of Scotland.

In squash, Saurav Ghosal progressed to the men's singles semifinals, but it was curtains for Joshna Chinappa as she suffered a loss to Canada's Hollie Naughton in the women's singles quarterfinals.

Ghosal saw off Scotland's Greg Lobbon 11-5, 8-11, 11-7, 11-3, while Joshna, however, couldn't produce her best, losing 9-11, 5-11, 13-15 to the 27-year-old Haughton.

Podium finishers: Shushila and Vijay brought more cheer for India. • GETTY IMAGES & PTI

India lets England off the hook

Ahead 3-0 at one stage, the Indians flounder

SANTADEEP DEY
BIRMINGHAM

England came back from 1-3 down at the end of the third quarter to hold India 4-4 in a Commonwealth Games 2022 hockey match at a packed University of Birmingham venue.

Lalit Upadhyay, having earned a penalty corner, fired a rebound into the back of the net in only the third minute.

Although, England earned a penalty corner immediately afterwards, courtesy of some sloppy work in the Indian midfield, Vivek Sagar Prasad put his body on the line to cancel out the effort from the host.

India continued the good show as Mandeep Singh and Nilakanta Sharma combined to produce a spectacular counter-attacking display, culminating into Mandeep slotting the ball into the bottom right soon after.

Hardik Singh, midway into the second quarter, threaded the ball to Mandeep inside the D. The latter spun around to find Akashdeep, who fired home.

The English attack found a new life post the half-time break. Liam Ansell scored in the dying minutes of the third quarter to make it 1-3.

Harmanpreet extended India's lead with a scorcher in the 46th minute off yet another penalty corner.

However, India lost the plot once England started making inroads.

Egged on by a noisy crowd, England fired three goals through Phillip Roper and Nicholas Bandurak in six minutes to miraculously pull back a draw hardly anybody would have foreseen.

Up and down: India and England shared the honours in a contest that swung both ways. • AP

INDIANS' JOURNEY

Artistic Gymnastics: Women: Vault (final): 5. Pranati Nayak.

Boxing: Men (round-of-16): Super heavyweight: Sagar bt Maxime Yegnong Njieyo (Cmr); Middleweight: Sumit lost to Callum Peters (Aus); Flyweight: Amit Panghal bt Namri Berri (Van); Featherweight: Mohammad Hussamuddin bt Md Salim Hossain (Ban).

Hockey: Men (Pool B): drew with England 4-4.

Judo: Men: 60kg (bronze medal contest): Vijay Kumar Yadav bt Petros Christodoulides (Cyp); 66kg (bronze medal contest): Jasleen Singh Saini lost to Nathan Katz (Aus); Women: 48kg (final): Shushila Devi lost to Michaela Whitebooi (RSA), bags silver; 57kg (bronze medal contest): Suchika Tariyal lost to Christianne Legentil (Mri).

Lawn Bowls: Women's Fours (semifinals): bt New Zealand 16-13.

Squash: Men (quarterfinals): Saurav Ghosal bt Greg Lobban (Sco) 3-1; Women: Quarterfinals: Joshna Chinappa lost to Hollie Naughton (Can) 0-3.

Weightlifting: Men: 73kg: Achinta Sheuli (gold). 81kg: 4. Ajay Singh.

Gukesh, Nihal, Tania and Vantika thrive

India 1 held by France; India 3 loses to Georgia in the women's section

RAKESH RAO
MAMALLAPURAM

After a depleted French team held India 1 on all boards, Uzbekistan made the host feel a lot better by holding top seed USA 2-2 on what turned out to be a day of the underdogs in the Chess Olympiad here.

Not surprisingly, Monday witnessed some close encounters involving some leading teams with three of the top four matches producing 2-2 deadlocks, while fancied Netherlands lost to Israel. Notwithstanding a defeat to higher-ranked nations in each section, the Indian teams found more reasons to rejoice.

If Tania Sachdev and Vantika Agarwal provided the winning margins for India 1 and India 2, D. Gukesh and Nihal Sarin scored dominating victories to keep India 2 among the leaders of the Open section at eight match-points.

When the dust settled following protracted battles on several boards, there were five leading teams, including India 2, in the Open section and eight in the women's category.

Overwhelming favourite USA escaped serious embarrassment when Uzbekistan's Jakhongir Vakhidov erred on the 52nd move in a completely winning position and eventually let Sam Shankland get away with a 60-move draw. A victory for Vakhidov could have given this young Uzbekistan team a memorable victory since Nodirbek Abdusattorov had Fabiano Caruana suffering on the top board.

D. Gukesh and Nihal Sarin sparkled on the top two boards as India 2 brought down Italy 3-1. Italy, conqueror of third seed Norway on Sunday, found the all-teen Indian combination too hot to handle. After Raunak Sadhwani drew on the fourth board, Gukesh caught Daniele Vocaturo in a checkmating net. Less than 24 hours ago, Vocaturo had held World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen. Praggnanandhaa drew and Nihal won to give India another remarkable win.

For Norway, there was no respite as 45th seed Mongolia forced a 2-2 draw after Carlsen won on the top board.

The results (with match-points): Fourth round: Open: France (7) drew with India 1 (7) 2-2 (Jules Moussard drew with P. Harikrishna; Laurent Fressinet drew with Vidit Gujarathi; Matthieu Cornette drew with Arjun Erigaisi; Maxime Lagarde drew with S. L. Narayanan).

India 3 (6) lost to Spain (8) 1.5-2.5 (Surya Sekhar Ganguly drew with Alexei Shirov; S. P. Sethuraman drew with Francisco Vallejo Pons; Abhijeet Gupta lost to David Anton; M. Karthikeyan drew with Latasa Santos).

India 2 (8) bt Italy (6) 3-1 (D. Gukesh bt Daniele Vocaturu; Nihal Sarin bt Luca Moroni Jr.; R. Praggnanandhaa drew with Lorenzo Lodici; Raunak Sadhwani drew with Francesco Sonis).

USA (7) drew with Uzbekistan (7) 2-2; Poland (7) drew with Romania (7) 2-2; Turkey (7) drew with Azerbaijan (7) 2-2; Israel (8) bt Netherlands (6) 2.5-1.5; Serbia (6) lost to England (8) 0.5-3.5; Armenia (8) bt Austria (6) 3-1; Canada (7) drew with Iran (7) 2-2; Slovakia (7) bt Ukraine (5) 2.5-1.5; Norway (5) drew with Mongolia (5) 2-2.

Women: India 1 (8) bt Hungary (6) 2.5-1.5 (K. Humpy drew with Hoang Thanh Trang; D. Harika drew with Ticia Gara; R. Vaishali drew with Szidonia Lazarne Vajda; Tania Sachdev bt Zsoka Gaal).

Georgia (8) bt India 3 (6) 3-1 (Nana Dzagnidze bt Eesha Karavade; Nino Batsiashvili lost to P. V. Nandhidhaa; Lela Javakhishvili bt Varshini Sahithi; Salome Melia bt Pratyusha Bodda).

India 2 (8) bt Estonia (6) 2.5-1.5 (Vantika Agrawal bt Mai Narva; Padmini Rout drew with Margareth Olde; Soumya Swaminathan drew with Anastassia Sinitsina; Divya Deshmukh drew with Sofia Blokhin).

Bulgaria (6) lost to Ukraine (8) 2.5-1.5; Netherlands (6) lost to Poland (8) 0.5-3.5; France (8) bt Serbia (6) 2.5-1.5; Israel (6) lost to Azerbaijan (8) 1-3; Romania (8) bt Germany (6) 2.5-1.5; Mongolia (7) drew with Kazakhstan (7) 2-2; Cuba (7) bt Sweden (6) 2.5-1.5.

Winning moves: Nihal's dominant win kept India 2 among the leaders while Tania made the difference as India 1 beat Hungary in the women's category. • R. RAVINDRAN & B. VELANKANNI RAJ

USA's lucky escape against Uzbekistan

It's wonderful to see three Indian teams have the perfect score

VISWANATHAN ANAND

It has been four days of some intense games at the 44th Chess Olympiad. Let us take stock after the four rounds, there are five teams in the Open section and eight among the women with a maximum of eight match-points.

CASAGRAND
building aspirations

While it's wonderful to see that three Indian teams have the score, there are a lot of other countries that are still doing very well. And inevitably, as teams with perfect scores clash, this will start to resolve on its own.

Today, we had some dramatic developments. India 1 faced a very solid French team and drew on all four boards. The French team had come well prepared.

The big surprise was Uzbekistan holding favourite USA. In fact, right before Nordirbek Abdusattarov beat Fabiano Caruana, Jahongir Vakhidov had sights on the easiest of wins on the fourth board against Sam Shankland, but he missed out. So, the USA is, in fact, grateful that they managed to draw 2-2 and salvage one point because they were busted. A very impressive performance by Uzbekistan, which might be the youngest top team in the tournament.

Finally, Azerbaijan drew the match with Turkey. It was again a good comeback, as like the USA, they managed to salvage a point at the end.

Turkey holding Azerbaijan is a slight surprise. Israel beating the Netherlands is, of course, a bigger one. Full marks to Ilia Smirin, the veteran, for beating Erwin L'Ami. And that obviously made the difference. Anish Giri was held on the top board. Jorden van Foreest, as well. So, the Dutch advantage never came into play.

It was good to see Tania Sachdev clinch a crucial win for India 1 in the women's section.

Both the India 1 teams came up with solid performances, but the third teams in both sections had a very tough day. They had done well in past three days, but I'm sure, with many more rounds left, new developments will happen.

There was again positive news for India 2. D. Gukesh won and so did Nihal Sarin. In fact, Nihal made the margin more comfortable (3-1), and he was always in control. All credit to Gukesh and Nihal for playing so well.

R. Praggnanandhaa did press for a win. And Raunak Sadhwani drew today but you must give him full marks for his score until now. So, all good for the crucial India 2 team.

Unfortunately, for the women, despite P.V. Nandhidhaa's victory over Nino Batsiashvili, India 3 lost 1-3 to Georgia.

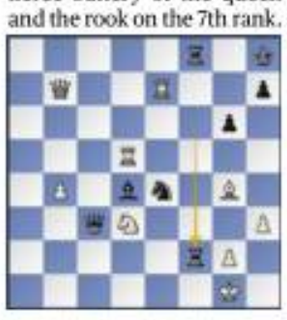
I think it was still a good day for India. Again, it shows that the rounds are getting harder, stronger teams face each other. And this is the time when we just have to be patient.

Even a defeat doesn't spoil anything. The tournament is still within reach. You can play well but obviously it's nice if you keep scoring.

Let me end with revisiting a dramatic game from Day 3 between Abhimanyu Puranik and Helgi Gretarsson. We will join in from Black's 41st move.

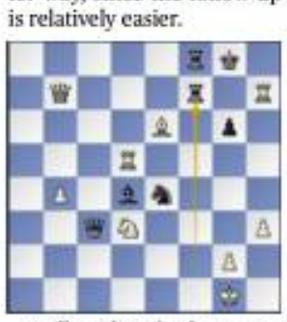
Black just played the incredible Ne4 (Nf5 was better)

White found the only move 42.Qb7 Whereupon Abhimanyu went for Rxf2. A fantastic move, trusting he could defend against the fierce battery of the queen and the rook on the 7th rank.



Two moves later, he revealed what he had calculated:

Blocking the check with the other rook, I was expecting this rook to come back while watching the game. In fact, Abhimanyu's is the better way, since the follow up is relatively easier.



Full credit to both Gretarsson and Puranik for navigating this minefield. A sequence that had the spectators spellbound.

LIVE TELECAST

CWG 2022: Sony Ten 2, 3, Six (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 1.30 p.m. onwards
Chess Olympiad 2022: FIDE & Chessbase India YouTube channels, 3 p.m. onwards
Zimbabwe vs Bangladesh: 3rd T20I, FanCode, 4.30 p.m.
West Indies vs India: 3rd T20I, FanCode & DD Sports, 8 p.m.

IN BRIEF

Ex-Rydercaptain Stenson wins on LIV Golf debut

NEW YORK

Henrik Stenson, stripped of the European Ryder Cup captaincy after joining the LIV Golf circuit, won the LIV Golf Invitational Bedminster on Sunday. The 46-year-old Swede carded two-under 69 for an 11-under total that gave him a two-shot victory over Matthew Wolff and Dustin Johnson. AFP

Jeev fades off in final round to end tied 22nd

UTTOXETER (ENGLAND)

Jeev Milkha Singh faltered in the third and final round of the JCB Senior Championships here as he dropped to tied 22nd. Jeev, who shot 64 and 73 in earlier rounds, returned a six-over 78 for a total of one-under 215. Germany's Alex Cejka (69, 66, 70) took the title at 11-under. PTI

Arjun Waskale fails to make final

CALI (COLOMBIA)

Arjun Waskale finished seventh in his heat, and 26th overall, and failed to qualify for the men's 1500m final at the World Athletics Under-20 Championships which began in Cali, Colombia, on Monday. The under-20 Federation Cup champion with a personal best 3:46.31s in June, clocked 3:51.10s.

Kishore shines bright

CHENNAI

Chennai boy Kishore Kumar outshone every competitor in the groms 16 & under and men's open (17+) categories in the opening day of the Mahabs Point Break Challenge — one of the two back-to-back national surfing championships here on Monday. Over 80 surfers are competing in the two-day event.

Extra race day on August 11

BENGALURU

The stewards of Bangalore Turf Club have decided to conduct an extra race day on August 11 (Thursday).

Injured Nurul ruled out of Zimbabwe tour

DHAKA

Bangladesh captain for the Twenty20 International series against Zimbabwe Nurul Hasan will miss the rest of the tour due to a finger injury, BCB said on Monday. Nurul hurt his left index finger while keeping wickets in Sunday's second T20I at Harare, which Bangladesh won. AFP

Pugilists Amit, Hussamuddin post authoritative wins

Sagar Ahlawat uncorks spectacular display of power and aggression in the 92kg category in his debut international bout

BIRMINGHAM 2022 commonwealth games

Y.B. SARANGI

Take that: Amit Panghal, right, lands one on Namri Berri of Vanuatu. •GETTY IMAGES

Throwing punches: Mohammed Hussamuddin and Md Salim Hossain have a go at it. •GETTY IMAGES

Clean strike: Sagar Ahlawat, right, makes his punch on Maxime Yegnong Njieyo's face count. •GETTY IMAGES

World championships silver medallist Amit Panghal (51kg) and Commonwealth Games bronze medallist Mohammad Hussamuddin (57kg) recorded authoritative wins to move into the quarterfinals of their respective weight categories in the boxing arena of the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham on Monday.

Rookie southpaw Sagar Ahlawat (92kg) also scripted a fine victory on Sunday night to reach the last-eight.

A clinical Amit registered a comprehensive 5-0 win over Vanuatu's Namri Berri in a first round match.

The decorated Indian will face Scotland's Lennon Mulligan in the quarterfinals on Thursday.

Wide difference in class

Amit underscored the wide difference in class between him and his opponent. He exhibited his excellent footwork and moved in and out of Berri's grasp to land punches at will.

The diminutive southpaw was hardly distracted after dropping his gumshield in the opening round, and explored different angles to execute his jabs and combinations.

The Indian's teasing evasive skills not only denied his rival clean shots, but also frustrated him throughout the lopsided contest.

Hussamuddin was too good for Bangladesh's Md. Salim Hossain, who boxed too cautiously throughout the bout.

Counter punching

The experienced Indian showed his fine counter-punching skills as he mixed his head and body shots well without giving away anything.

Hussamuddin will take on Namibian Tryagain Ndevelo in the next round on Wednesday.

Sagar made a spectacular display of his power and aggression to outwit Cameroon's Maxime Njieyo 5-0 in his debut international match.

The fearless Sagar delivered booming punches with his fast hands to move into the round of eight.

He will meet Seychelles' Commonwealth Games bronze medallist Keddy Agnes on Thursday.

Pranati Nayak finishes fifth in vault

Poor landing costs her a medal

GYMNASTICS

Y. B. SARANGI

Asian championships bronze medallist gymnast Pranati Nayak's below-par performance denied her a podium finish in the vault final of the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham on Monday.

A medal was well within Pranati's reach as she had qualified in the third position with a score of 13.275. She managed 12.699 to finish fifth in the final, whereas Australian Georgia Godwin took the gold medal with 13.233.

Pranati lost a bit of balance while landing in her first vault and scored 13.633, including a difficulty of 5.200, an execution of 8.966 and a penalty of -0.1.

Pranati's second vault, a handspring performance, pulled her score down.

Not up to the mark

Her landing was not up to the mark and she lost her balance to go off the cushion to get a score of 11.766, including a difficulty of 4.200, an execution of 7.866 and a penalty of -0.3.

Pranati in action. •GETTY IMAGES

- Medal was well within Pranati's reach as she had qualified in the third position with a score of 13.275
- Her second vault, a handspring performance, pulled her score down

McKeon becomes most successful athlete in CWG

Australian swimmer claims record 11th gold; Le Clos is most decorated with 18 medals

Phenoms: McKeon 50m freestyle win and Le Clos' silver finish in the 200m butterfly put them in the record books. •REUTERS

SWIMMING

REUTERS
BIRMINGHAM

Swimmer Emma McKeon became the most successful Commonwealth Games athlete of all-time on Sunday, leading an Australian sweep of the women's 50 metre freestyle to claim a record 11th gold medal.

It was a night of milestones at the Sandwell Aquatic Centre as moments earlier South African Chad Le Clos had joined shooters Michael Gault and Phil Adams as the most decorated Games athletes ever when he snatched his 18th medal by picking up a silver in the men's 200 metres butterfly.

Besting fellow Aussies

McKeon's 50m freestyle win follows earlier victories in the mixed 4×100 freestyle and women's 4×100 freestyle relays to sit alone atop the gold medal table ahead of fellow Australian swimmers Susie O'Neill, Ian Thorpe and Leisel Jones.

Le Clos' milestone comes 10 years to the day that he beat American great Michael Phelps in the same event at the 2012 London Olympics. Swimming out of lane five, the same lane he beat Phelps from, Le Clos was beaten to the wall by Lewis Clareburt with a winning of time of one minute, 55.60 seconds.

However, he could not be denied a place in the record books after finishing just .29 seconds back of the New Zealander to snatch silver ahead of England's James Guy.

"I'm gutted not to have won, I'll be honest," said Le Clos, adding he plans to be top the podium before the end of the Games. "I would've cut my finger off to win tonight.

A three-time Commonwealth Games champion in the event, Le Clos looked like he might make four leading with 50m to go but the 30-year-old would be overhauled down the stretch by Lewis, who adds the 200m butterfly title to the 400m individual medley gold he won earlier at the Sandwell Aquatic Centre.

Le Clos' medal haul from four Commonwealth Games includes seven gold, four silver and seven bronze.

His trophy case also contains four Olympic (one gold, three silver) and seven World Championship medals (four gold, one silver, two bronze).

New World record

Meanwhile, Australia broke the world record in the women's 4x200m freestyle relay on Sunday.

The team of Madison Wilson, Kiah Melverton, Mollie O'Callaghan and Ariarne Titmus finished in 7min 39.29sec to beat China's time of 7:40.33.

Dottin calls curtains on Windies career

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BIRMINGHAM

Star all-rounder Deandra Dottin has announced her retirement from the West Indies women's cricket team, citing she was no longer able to "adhere to the team culture and environment."

The 31-year-old, who is the fastest centurion in women's T20 Internationals, took to Twitter to announce her retirement.

"There have been many obstacles during my cricket career that I have had to overcome. However, the current climate and team environment has been non-conductive to my ability to thrive and reignite my passion," Dottin said. Dottin, however, did not indicate whether she would also retire from Barbados, a side she is representing at the ongoing CWG.

Dottin is West Indies' most-capped international cricketer, having played 124 T20Is and 143 ODIs since her debut in June 2008.

She has 3,727 runs in ODIs at an average of 30.54 and 2,697 in T20Is at 25.93.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Smaran and Shrijith are the stars in Vultures' six-wkt win

R. Smaran (83 n.o, 41b, 3x4, 8x6) and K.L. Shrijith (77, 35b, 5x4, 5x6) helped Vultures CC defeat Sir Syed Cricketers by six wickets in the semifinals of the KSCA Twenty20 tournament for the G. Kasturirangan Memorial Trophy at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here.

In the other semifinal, S. Amogh's four-for powered Cambridge CC past Swastic Union CC (I).

The scores (semifinals): Swastic Union (1) 105 in 18.2 overs (R. Samarth 27, S. Amogh 4/17) lost to Cambridge 107/4 in 17.2 overs (Shubhang Hegde 34, Gowtham Sagar 35 n.o.). Sir Syed Cricketers 211/5 in 20 overs (Rohan Patil 63, Nikin Jose 84, B.A. Mohith 27) lost to Vultures 215/4 in 17.1 overs (R. Smaran 83 n.o., Karun Nair 32, K.L. Shrijith 77, L.R. Kumar 3/50).

Vedant moves into the second round

Vedant Gundu defeated R. Tejas 6-4, 6-4 in the boys' singles first round of the KSLTA Transform Super Series under-14 tennis tournament at the KSLTA Stadium here on Monday.

Reddy wins a gold and a silver

B.N.S. Reddy won a gold and a silver in the World Police and Fire Games tennis tournament held at Rotterdam, Netherlands.

Reddy won the silver in the singles event, and captured gold alongside S.M. Sharma in the doubles.

Alonso to replace Vettel at Aston Martin

FORMULA ONE

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

Spanish Formula One driver Fernando Alonso will leave the Alpine team to join Aston Martin on a multi-year contract in 2023

The double World champion, who turned 41 on Friday, will replace German driver Sebastian Vettel, a four-time champion, who last week announced his retirement

"The whole company is very excited to bring Fernando's incredible experience and brilliant pace and racecraft to the team," Aston Martin said.

Alonso came eighth in Sunday's Hungarian Grand Prix and is currently 10th in the World championship standings.

Fernando Alonso. •REUTERS

"I still have the hunger and ambition to fight to be at the front, and I want to be part of an organisation that is committed to learn, develop and succeed. I intend to win again in this sport and therefore I have to take the opportunities that feel right to me," he said.

Chapman hits unbeaten century

Powers New Zealand to seven-wicket win in lone ODI

NZ IN SCOTLAND

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
EDINBURGH

Mark Chapman completed a memorable few days in Edinburgh with an unbeaten hundred as New Zealand comfortably defeated Scotland by seven wickets in a lone One-Day International on Sunday.

Chapman followed his T20-best 83 in a 102-run thrashing of the Scots on Friday with 101 not out.

It was Chapman's second century in seven ODIs following his unbeaten 124 against the UAE back in 2015.

The scores: Scotland 306 in 49.4 overs (Michael Jones 36, Matthew Cross 53, Michael Leask 85, Mark Watt 31, Safyaan Sharif 28; Jacob Duffy 3/52, Michael Bracewell 3/43) lost to New Zealand 307-3, 45.5 overs (Martin Guptill 47, Finn Allen 50, Dane Cleaver 32, Mark Chapman 101 n.o., Daryl Mitchell 74 n.o.). **Toss:** Scotland; **MoM:** Chapman; *New Zealand won by seven wickets with 25 balls remaining.*

Chapman... on fire. •REUTERS

APPOINTMENT

NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited for the post of

VICE CHANCELLOR

of

India International University Of Legal Education & Research, Goa

(an Initiative of Bar Council Of India Trust – PEARL FIRST)

For more details / application form, please visit University website : www.iiuler.com

Last date for submission of application : 16th August 2022

East OR west Ayur Central is best!

Includes North and South, because now our medicals are in each and every corner of Bengaluru.

More than 60+ medicals in Bengaluru

AyurCentral
Ayurvedic Medical Shops
www.ayurcentral.com

we support for healthier Bengaluru Healthier Karnataka is our Desire

Even you have a place in our Dream In the right choice there lies the key for the victory

Even you can own a Franchise only with 15 lakhs!
Contact : 7676731881